

THE Japan Weekly Mail.

A POLITICAL, COMMERCIAL, AND LITERARY JOURNAL.

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YOKOHAMA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 1874.

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BIRTH.

On the 2nd December, at Dacre Park, Blackheath, the wife of A. ALLAN SHAND, Esq., of Yokohama, Japan, of a son.

Notes of the Week.

THE feeling of uneasiness prevalent last week has largely subsided, and people are beginning to see how little real ground there was for it. Much of the wild talk about war with Corea has been blown off, and the journal which said "there must be war sooner or later"—a pretty safe mode, by the way, of letting off these crackers—has come down to this:—"We are of opinion that the government is able to repress this"; though the old spirit breaks out again directly afterwards in the following form:—"But it requires the most careful course of action to guard against bringing on civil strife." We suppose it is no use being angry or vexed about these things. So long as there are fairs there will be old gipsy women in red cloaks to tell fortunes and servant girls to listen to them.

THE Memorial to the Sa-In, of which so much has been written and talked, has been generally received in Yedo with anything but approval, and has been rated on the whole at about as much as it was worth. We have treated it at greater length elsewhere. Of course a memorial of this nature, which is more or less the fruit of conversation with foreigners or with young men who have returned from abroad, will contain some sound general principles and a great deal of "culture and intelligence" froth. But it is very much like an omelette. Served hot and fresh from the kitchen it tastes well enough, but after a quarter of an hour's keeping it becomes a poor flabby mass with equally little flavour and nourishment.

Nevertheless with its merits and demerits, it is being freely canvassed in the native newspapers, and it is somewhat curious to see the devices resorted to in order to evade the strict laws which bind the Press. It may be expected that these will produce an abundant crop of fable, allegory and veiled satire. Of course, an entire freedom of the newspaper press is neither to be looked for nor desired in this state of the country's progress. No prudent statesman would for a moment grant it. But the Government may well, and, as we imagine, may safely, permit a moderately free expression of opinion, and should of all things at this moment try to ascertain the direction and force of public opinion in the capital in regard to the subject treated in the document now under consideration. Of course, the Memorialists will have their organ and their partisans; and, equally of course, their opponents will impugn their views and course of action. But we see little but good in this conflict of opinion, and the Government will do well to let the fight go on without interfering, except in cases of grave necessity, and then by sensible, judicious warning, rather than by more active measures. A moderately free expression of opinion is the necessary forerunner, and subsequently the necessary supplement, of popular assemblies such as are contemplated by the Memorialists, and, as the Government has returned a favourable answer to them, it must boldly look in the face the consequences of its act. In urging recently a lenient administration of the laws relating to the newspaper press, we took occasion to say that the Government must be prepared to part with a share of its power proportionately to

the freedom it conceded to the Press. But we should be sorry if this were interpreted into an expression of opinion that such as course of action would be unwise. The time has undoubtedly arrived when, in some greater or less degree, and to an extent wholly undreamed of ten, or even five, years ago, popular views and sentiments must be allowed expression, of which the Government must take cognizance, and by which it must more or less be influenced. Not the less, however, must all this be done with great caution.

ON Wednesday evening last Mr. McLeod gave his lecture upon the "Identity of the Mikado, Miya and Kuge Sama &c. &c., with the ten lost tribes of Israel." He attracted but a small audience, and did not even contrive to keep this together above a few minutes. First one went away, then another, then another, until some four only of the faithful remained to discuss Mr. McLeod's discovery, the presence of the unicorn in the crest of the Mikado, and the assertion that His Majesty has in his possession the psaltery, harp, timbrel and other minor Jewish Temple instruments, according to the advertisement of the lecture.

We have that kind of tenderness for Mr. McLeod which one naturally has for a worthy, sincere, and kindly man who spends his life in chasing an *ignis fatuus*. The simple fact is that there never yet was any one who had a good hunt after the lost Ten Tribes who did not find them, and yet—they never have been found. One man finds them in India among the Sikhs, another in China among the Jews at Kai-fung-foo, another among the high-nosed North American Indians, and so on. Fifty men have been entirely convinced of the successful results of their search, and yet the world has agreed, and obstinately refuses to be convinced of its error—for so it must appear in the eyes of these worthy men—that the Lost Tribes have not been found to this very day, and, in spite of Mr. McLeod, we shall still consider the problem unsolved.

The simple fact is that out of a hundred men who go in search of these lost sheep, ninety-nine are wholly unqualified for the task. They know little about ethnology as a science, they are equally ignorant of philology, and, from a really scientific point of view they are absolutely destitute of all power of accurate analysis. They see a man or a family with a nose which they cannot well account for, immediately they raise a 'view halloa,' and off they go. All that makes for their theory they seize on and magnify; all that makes against it they ignore and eliminate. For all the good Bacon ever did them he might as well have never written a line of the *Novum Organum*. They see some device or lines in a monarch's crest, or possibly only one straight line. This, of course, is the straight horn of the unicorn. Then they find some musical instruments which are, of course, those of King David's choir, or the renowned orchestra of Babylon and the Golden Image, and so they go off, and no human power can stop them. Did Mr. McLeod ever waste his time over a poor play called Hamlet? Let us recall the following passage to him:—

Pol. My lord, the queen would speak with you, and presently.

Ham. Do you see yonder cloud, that's almost in a shape of a camel?

Pol. By the mass, and 'tis like a camel, indeed.

Ham. Methinks it is like a weasel.

Pol. It is backed like a weasel.

Ham. Or like a whale?

Pol. Very like a whale.

Ham. Then will I come to my mother by and by.

Dr. Hepburn has published a small pocket edition of his Dictionary from which, as we are informed in the preface, "are omitted the Chinese and Japanese characters, the synonyms, and the examples showing the use of the words, except such as contained a peculiar idiom, and which could not be included in a definition. All the native Japanese words, with the exception of those which were rarely used or obsolete, have been retained; as also all the words derived from the Chinese which are in current use." Much also has been done in other ways to render the acquisition of Japanese words easy to the student, to explain their etymology and derivatives. The Dictionary is a further means, and should be a fresh incentive, to the study of Japanese by foreigners, and will also place in the hands of Japanese students a handy work to assist them in the study of English. The book is got up with great neatness and apparent care, and the type, though small, is very clear and distinct.

WE are informed on excellent authority that the rumour which obtained circulation during the week that a native merchant of Ōzaka had committed suicide on account of the disastrous results of certain rice operations in which he was said to have been interested in company with the late Finance Minister, is wholly untrue.

THE *Herald* of last night has the following:—

"It is stated that Mr. Acting-Assistant Judge Hannen is shortly to be superseded, and that his successor will be Mr. Goodwin, of Shanghai."

This gives an incorrect impression in regard to the circumstances referred to, which are as follows.

Mr. Hannen, as his title, Acting-Assistant Judge, denotes, has been acting for the Assistant Judge, Mr. Goodwin, and naturally therefore when Mr. Goodwin returns to his post, Mr. Hannen vacates it. When the Supreme Court was first constituted in 1865 the Chief Judge, Sir Edmund Hornby, and Mr. Goodwin, the Assistant Judge, were both stationed at Shanghai, but when the judicial business at Yokohama attained large dimensions while that of Shanghai decreased, it was (with good reason) thought desirable to transfer the Assistant Judge to Yokohama and thus give the chief port of Japan the advantage of a Court presided over by a professional Judge. Sir Edmund Hornby leaving at this time for England, Mr. Goodwin officiated for him as Chief Judge, and on Sir Edmund Hornby's return to China Mr. Goodwin then in turn took leave, and thus Mr. Hannen's acting appointment has continued for three years.

Mr. Goodwin is not expected in Yokohama before the end of April.

THE difficulty of obtaining accurate information in this country in regard to political events or events having a political bearing, is not small, and the best we can often do is to give our readers such surmises as are made in the best informed and most trustworthy quarters in regard to passing events. In our last weekly issue we stated that the Satsuma men discharged from the police were, in all probability, concerned in the late attempted assassination of Iwakura. But, as the investigation of it proceeds, we have more reason to think that the Tosa men are the guilty parties. At all events seven men have been arrested, and their examination leads to this belief.

WE are pleased to be able to announce that Iwakura is fast recovering from the effects of his wounds, and that it is hoped he may shortly be able to resume his official duties.

It is reported that 'Hotsubashi (the late Shōgun) has left Shidzuoka and taken up his residence in Yedo, where he has been staying for some time past.

By a proclamation of the 20th instant the Mikado gives up 36,000 *yen* of his annual income towards army expenses.

THE Empress received yesterday the families of the Foreign Ministers. Lady Parkes, Mrs. and the Misses Bingham, and

Madame De Groote, were presented. The Empress expressed pleasure at seeing them, and received their congratulations on the New Year and wishes for Her Majesty's health and happiness. The Mikado was present and added a few words of welcome. The New Year's reception had been delayed in consequence of the indisposition of Her Majesty.

THE Annual Meeting of the Yokohama Fire Brigade took place on Wednesday afternoon at the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Wilkin occupied the chair. The Report and Accounts were considered and adopted and the subject of the present insufficient supply of water was also brought before the meeting. The following are the names of the Committee for the present year Messrs. Benson, Dodds, J. A. Fraser, Hurlbut and Leckie.

THE Annual Meeting of the Seat-holders of Christ Church was held at H. M. Consulate on Tuesday afternoon. The office-holders for the past year were re-elected, and the Report of the Committee on Ways and Means was held over for the consideration of an extraordinary general meeting to be called shortly.

AT the Paper Hunt of Saturday afternoon, the prize, a silver cup presented by R. H. Brunton, Esq., was won by Lt. Hungerford on *Snapdragon*. About a dozen started.

THE Pony Paper Hunt which was run on Saturday for a Cup presented by R. H. Brunton, Esq. has been considered void. A second meeting will take place to-morrow the 31st instant at 3 P.M. at the Grand Stand on the Race Course.

THE native town was gaily decorated yesterday in honour of the Mikado's fête day and the Japanese Public Offices observed a close holiday. The Governor of Yokohama entertained the foreign Consuls and several of the foreign Officers now present in Yokohama at dinner in the evening.

The honours of the Foot Paper Chase of yesterday afternoon were won by Mr. Alfred Dare. We regret to learn that Mr. Abell, who was one of the "hares," injured himself somewhat seriously in the chase.

LAST Saturday we called the attention of the public to the shameful laxity of the police on the Bluffs. Our solicitude in this respect has been justified by the occurrence of a very serious robbery on the night of Sunday last in the house of Mr. H. Church which has been stripped of much valuable property.

It is now in contemplation by the authorities of the Mom-busho to erect new and improved buildings for the use of the Kai Sei Gakko (Polytechnic School), and to devote the present edifice to the use of the Guai Koku Gakko (Foreign Language School). The old sheds occupied by the latter are in a state of advanced dilapidation, and cannot longer suffice for the accommodation of the pupils. The new Polytechnic School will be erected within the grounds of the old Kaga yashiki, in Hongo, in the north of the city. The new buildings will be separate from each other. This arrangement will afford greater security against fire. They will be of a more durable material, and will be built in finer style those now in use.—*Herald*.

THE Japanese Government has secured the services of Dr. Speier, of Fulda, as professor of natural science at Yedo. It is affirmed that a very handsome salary has been guaranteed the doctor by the Japanese Embassy at Berlin.—*Herald*.

THE CHUJI of Tokei Fu has ordered all the Cho yakunin to send in a list of foreigners living within their districts, with all particulars concerning them, and why they live out of Tskidji.—*Gazette*.

SHIPPERS OF SILK.

Per S. S. *Orissa*, despatched 28th January, 1874.

	England.	France.	Italy.
Aymonin & Co., V.	10	23	—
Reiss & Co.,	70	—	—
Siber and Brennwald,	107	41	13
Walsh, Hall & Co.,	—	14	—
Bolmida, G.	—	7	4
Abegg, Borel & Co.	—	—	11
	187	85	28
Total Silk	300 bales.		

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

YOKOHAMA STATION.

28th January, 1873.

Statement of Traffic Receipts for the week ending Sunday, 25th January, 1874.

Passengers.....	30,600	Amount.....	\$8,049.00
Goods, Parcels &c.....			538.61
Total.....			\$8,587.61

Average per mile per week \$477.09.

18 Miles Open.

Corresponding week 1873.

Number of Passengers 24,321 Amount \$7,483.90

THE MEMORIAL OF SOYEJIMA AND OTHERS.

IT was only so recently as the 20th of December last that an article in this journal entitled 'Representative Government in Japan' contained the following words:— 'We have been at some pains to sketch the history of attempts at representative bodies in Japan since the revolution, because it shows beyond a doubt that the desire for something of the kind does exist, and may at no distant date make itself audibly felt.' In the Memorial of SOYEJIMA and others, a translation of which will be found elsewhere in our columns to-day, is the fulfilment of this prophecy. A translation of this Memorial has already been published elsewhere, and to it we referred shortly last week. It differs considerably, perhaps widely, in regard to its tone, from that with which we have been favoured, but agrees with it in other respects closely. We shall, however, incur no blame for taking our own version as the more perfect reading, and making it the text of the following remarks.

In the first place, we are disposed to blame severely that apparently undisciplined state of mind in high officials, of which during the past twelve months we have seen one or two notable examples, and which prompts them, immediately after they have quitted office or been forced to resign it, to turn round upon the Government to which they have belonged, and of which they have been important instruments, and depreciate it in terms which, however just on the part of an opposition, are distinctly disloyal to recent colleagues, and are further open to the objection that they point at faults which must have been committed with their own full privy. The Memorial of INOUE BUNDA was written to expose financial mismanagement, and appeared immediately after his resignation of the post of Finance Minister which he had held some time. It is now the turn of SOYEJIMA and GOTÔ SHOJIRÔ, ITAGAKI and ITO SHIMPEI, who only resigned office at the recent rupture in the Cabinet—a rupture, be it remembered, which arose from a disagreement upon entirely other grounds—to turn upon the very form of government they have been administering and curse it to its face. And what do they blame in it? Its recklessly capricious legislation—'The manifold decrees of the government appear in the morning and are changed in the evening';—'the arrogance of the officials'; the blocking of the

expression of public opinion; partiality in the distribution of rewards and punishments, &c. But were they not members of the Council of State while these things were being done? Were they not Sanghi? Was not GOTÔ himself the President of the notable Sa-in at this time? Their own humility is new indeed if they have lost the official arrogance which but three months ago, as officials, they must, on their own showing, have possessed. This newly-blown ardour for democracy is vastly suspicious, and savours of the laments uttered at the council of the fallen angels:—

What can be worse

Than to dwell here, driven out from bliss, condemned

In this abhorred deep to utter woe?

Who blocked this free expression of popular opinion? When were the laws passed which fettered the Press, and drew from us our protest in favour of unlicensed printing? Has there been any fresh miraculous conversion on the road to Damascus? Has a light from heaven suddenly shined round about those who, but three months ago, were among the persecutors? If not, why are they all at the feet of the people, crying, "Behold we are here, what would ye have us do?" "Is Saul also among the prophets?" All this betrays the presence of that very fickleness which is illustrated by the fickle legislation to which we have again and again drawn attention; against which KIDO protested; to which we referred in our Summary of last year as the cause of much grievous discontent; and against which the signatories to the present Memorial, with more knowledge but with less justification, again protest. Do they mean to say that the great Council of State could not check this hasty legislation, and that it was all the work of the departmental officers? It is true that we do see the local officials assuming no small measure of power, even in such delicate matters as those in which foreigners are concerned. It is not a month ago that we found the Governor of Kanagawa decreeing that all silk arriving from the interior must be taken to the *Kiito Aratame Kuaisha*, an excess of authority which the Central Government repudiated. Not two months ago the Commissioner of Customs decreed that there should be no re-fund of overpaid duties after a lapse of ten days, a decree at once protested against by Her Majesty's Minister, and doubtless by all the other Foreign Representatives. The Commissioner of Customs at Kobe lately decreed that no foreign cargo-boats should be employed. Has not this rashness been carried into other matters, and have the thousand decrees about head-dresses, and rabbits, and kite-flying, and mats, and hats, and cats, and rats, been issued without the approval of the Council of State, though *with* the sanction of its name and official seal? But, if so, what has the Council of Sanghi been about? Or to whom does it delegate its high functions? The country has been worried to death, or at least to rebellion, by this irritating petty legislation, which has caused unceasing protest and not unnatural ridicule. If it has been the work of young ignorant officials, the Council of State is gravely to blame for not having checked it earlier; while, if it has been done with the sanction of this Council.....but we cannot conceive such a thing. The wise men of Gotham who put to sea in a bowl would have had a longer existence than any such council.

Having said thus much in regard to what seems to us the want of loyalty in the manner and matter of this protest, we shall now approach the subject of the Memorial

* Vide *Japan Mail* 6th September 1873.

itself, viz : the establishment of representative institutions for this country. And here we are more in harmony with the Memorialists, as those who have done us the honour to follow carefully the opinions expressed in no uncertain key in these columns, must acknowledge. In an article which we published on the 18th of October last we pointed out very clearly that nothing but a bureaucracy stood between the people of this country and the Throne, and that, by reason of the abolition of the territorial aristocracy, and the absence of all representative institutions, the passive discontent or active remonstrance of the people beat directly against the Throne in a manner which must sooner or later undermine its foundations. Some few weeks later we sketched out a scheme for the two Houses which we still think ought to constitute the deliberative bodies, though, of course, we did not presume to prescribe the exact limitation of their powers. We are conversant with the objections which have been made both by English and American writers to a Second Chamber, and which have nowhere been more ably and exhaustively summed up than by the late Mr. J. S. MILL in his work on Representative Government. But experience—the surest guide—is in favour of a Second Chamber, and in a country like this where the people are in a state of absolute political ignorance, and the aristocratic classes have been the sole leaders and governors, it would be impossible to dispense with it.

While, however, we are most desirous to see something like representative institutions in Japan, we have not the slightest guarantee that the people demand, or are in any way ripe for, them. The more advanced party here have far too great a disposition to think that because the European nations have such and such institutions, the Empire has only to put a similar kind of machinery together to ensure the same results as those which these institutions have produced in Europe. It was this fallacious view which made them imagine that a translated code of European laws would qualify them to assume jurisdiction over foreigners, and we now see it breaking out again in this Memorial. No error, however, can be more radical, more misleading and more dangerous. If we saw—so far far at least as it is possible to see here—any decided evidences that the country demanded institutions of this nature, we should feel more confident of such a response from it to this appeal of the Memorialists as would justify us in sanguine hopes that the granting of their prayer was necessary and would be beneficial. But such evidence is as yet but very slight. It may be urged that the mind of this people is quick, impressionable and plastic in a high degree. And this is true. But it is also fickle, imitative, (not constructive), superficial and wholly undisciplined. It is easily caught with a glittering bait or a gaudy fly. It is ardent after novelty, deficient in tenacity of purpose, and far too prone to mistake the shadows of things for their realities. All this demands that the faults which are the natural outcome of these inherent deficiencies, should be carefully guarded against, and gradually removed by the operation of higher moral forces. That we do the Japanese no injustice on this question may be inferred from the fact, that though there are some excellent sentiments in this Memorial and many sound principles, there is not one practical suggestion which a statesman, examining it, could lay his finger on and say of it.—“This is a sound practical view and may be carried out in this manner.” The Memorialists say—“Our belief in the justice of our views is strengthened, and we are firmly of opinion that the only way to maintain and develop the destinies of the empire is to establish

“a Council-Chamber chosen by the people and to develop public discussion by the empire. *We will not here enlarge upon the manner in which the idea is to be wrought out, for that would occupy too much space.*” Too much space ! Too much space for a scheme which is to give a constitution to an empire ! The question of a few more inches of paper, and a quarter of an hour's more reading, standing between a people and their demands for a constitution ! This was not how the Barons went to JOHN on the field of Runnymede. There was no want of space pleaded in 1628 for not enumerating the demands made in the PETITION OF RIGHT. When WILLIAM expressed his willingness to ratify the DECLARATION OF RIGHTS, he was left in no doubt about the meaning of the document to which he set his hand. There was no question about the want of space for the enumeration of the various laws by which the royal prerogative and the popular liberties had been settled. Before men begin to talk about the “opinion of the people” and a “council-chamber” and “public discussion,” or before practical men will listen to them, we want to know what they mean by these terms, how they propose to get at all these fine things, and what they intend to do with them when they have got them. Is the opinion of the people of which they speak to be restricted to the opinion of the *samurai* ? If so, why ? If it is to embrace that of the merchants, artisans and peasantry, how is it to be arrived at ? Is the Chamber to have actual legislative powers, or to be solely deliberative and thus practically divested of all real responsibility ? Is there to be one Chamber or two, and how is either, or are both, to be constituted ? What if they disagree ? These and a thousand such questions arise on the subject in the mind of an European. But there is no evidence that one of them has occurred to the Memorialists. Such documents are, therefore, very well to cover kites. They may amuse and even instruct—though the latter in a sense widely differing from the intention of their authors. But they are in reality utterly flimsy and well nigh useless to a practical statesman. They reflect the very defects in the national mind which a wise man would make it his severest task to eradicate and to replace with more solid qualities. They raise hopes which are mere dancing fires, and we should not be surprised if they even did more serious mischief than this.

We shall, of course, recur to this subject.

THE JAPANESE YEN.

WE observe that at a meeting of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce held on the 16th instant, the Chairman read a letter from the Colonial Secretary asking the opinion of the Chamber upon the advisability of proclaiming as a legal tender in the colony the American trade dollar and the Japanese Silver *yen*. Mr. CAMERON, of the Oriental Bank, alluding to the recent proclamation published in the Hongkong Government *Gazette*, by which the Viceroy of Canton called upon the Chinese to take the American trade dollar on the same basis as the Mexican, mentioned the terms on which he thought the proposal embodied in the letter read by the Chairman, could be carried out. He proceeded to review the history of the currency in China and argued that the interests of trade would be served by the adoption as legal tenders of the two coins above mentioned, in especial view of the diminished and uncertain supply of the Mexican dollar and the commercial insecurity to which this conducted. He concluded his remarks by proposing a resolution to the effect that the two coins should be made currency in the colony.

A discussion ensued, in the course of which Mr. WHITTALL expressed the opinion that matters would be complicated by the presence of three coins instead of one, and an amendment to Mr. CAMERON's resolution was proposed by Mr. GREIG, to the effect that the American trade dollar should be admitted as a legal tender on the same footing as the Mexican, but that for the present it was inadvisable that the Japanese *yen* should be so recognized. Mr. GRANVILLE SHARP subsequently pointed out that there was a strong feeling on the part of a large section of the public that a clean currency should be introduced and the old chopped dollars replaced by it.

We much regret the proposal of Mr. GREIG's amendment, so far as it excludes the Japanese *yen* from an entrance into the currency of the colony, nor are we by any means clear that the Colonial interests will be served by any decision to this effect. Those interests undoubtedly demand a large and easily accessible supply of a trustworthy coin, and while we quite admit the wisdom of introducing the American trade dollar, and the necessity for prudence in giving a sanction to any new coin, we think that advantage might also have been taken of the Japan Mint for the service of the colony. The objection to the presence of three coins does not strike us as a strong one. It is little more than the difference of the coinages of different reigns; it is certainly not unknown in Hongkong, inasmuch as Bolivian and Peruvian dollars became current at the same time as the Mexican; and, considering the solid guarantees we have for the maintenance of the purity and weight of the Japanese *yen*, the satisfactory reports lately made upon it by the highest authority, (published last week in these columns), and the proximity of Japan to China, we think that the sooner the latter portion of Mr. GREIG's amendment is rescinded in favour of a recognition of the *yen*, the better it will be for the Colony, though we shall not affect to deny that our first wishes for the recognition of the coin are based on our desire for the advancement of the interests of this country. Yet Hongkong may fairly be reminded that it stands as the centre of a large trade, requiring a coin currency yet producing none, and resembling in this respect a town full of people requiring daily supplies of food which it does not and cannot grow. It is well enough to argue that the ordinary laws of supply and demand will bring this food or this coin, but it must be remembered that the nearer the town is to its sources of supply, the less will be those fluctuations of price to which the supplies are liable, and this is no slight consideration. The operation of the telegraph has, of course, vastly reduced the distance between the various parts of the world, so far as this distance is measured by the time requisite to traverse it. But the telegraph cannot bring coin, and it is coin which may be suddenly wanted. A message to Japan would bring it in seven or eight days at least, in twelve at most; while a message to London or California could not bring it in less than thirty-five days at the least. Nor are we in any way surprised at the strength of the feeling among the mercantile classes of Hongkong in favour of a clean currency, instead of one like the chopped dollar. The latter is a truly barbarous medium, wholly unworthy of an enlightened machinery of commerce. It has lingered long amid ever increasing marks of contempt, but it has no *raison d'être* when adequate supplies of the new trade dollar and the Japanese *yen* are at hand to replace it. And in special regard to the latter coin, we think that any one who will read with unprejudiced and impartial mind the Summary of the year 1873 which recently appeared in these columns,

will admit that, much as may be urged against the stability of things in this country, the faults of the national character, or the errors of the Government, Japan now is too firmly pledged to the adoption of western civilization to admit much doubt of the persistence of the Japanese in the course marked out for them by the reforming party, and cutting its way each year mere deeply into the national mind. It is not unnatural that cautious and prudent men should hesitate to admit a coin into their currency the supplies of which they imagine may be fitful, and for the maintenance of which in its standard purity and weight they may not know or have recognized the guarantees. But we who know these, and are able to form a fair estimate of the condition of the Empire and the nature of the efforts it is making in its new path, may reasonably feel some disappointment at the conclusion arrived at by the Chamber, and hope at the same time for an early modification of it.

But this conclusion is not without its moral for the Japanese and the Japanese Government, and we should fall short in our duty were we not to point it out distinctly. It lies in the fact that the representatives of the European nations are slow in admitting claims suddenly advanced to positions which can only be attained and made good by years of wise, thorough, and conscientious labour. There is much distrust abroad of the foundations which the Japanese are laying, or have laid, for their new institutions, and they can only dissipate this by a steady perseverance in courses which experience has proved to be wise, and to which History has given its sanction. The instincts of trade, though somewhat sluggish, are generally sound, and the Japanese may learn from the refusal of the Hongkong Chamber to recommend the adoption of their *yen* as a recognised legal tender, the double lesson, that no amount of pains will be ill-bestowed which tends to convince the outer world of the solidity of their present endeavours, and that no disappointment in regard to hopes too sanguinely cherished must divert the country from a steady perseverance in the difficult path to which its steps are now irrevocably committed.

As we go to press we have been informed that the Oriental Bank has received a telegram to the effect that the Viceroy of Canton had proclaimed the *yen* a legal tender, and we trust that his action in this respect will carry with it the recommendation of the Hongkong Chamber, the report of whose adjourned meeting we await with much interest, in favour of the concession of a similar position to the coin in Hongkong.

THE MEMORIAL OF SOYEJIMA AND OTHERS.

TRANSLATION.

The opinions contained in the Memorial hereto annexed which we have the honour to address to you having constantly been held by us, and some of us during our period of office having repeatedly memorialized you on the same subject, an understanding was come to that after the special embassy despatched to the allied powers in Europe and America should have observed the practical working of such institutions, steps should be taken after due consideration of the circumstances. But although several months have elapsed since the return of the embassy to this country, we do not learn that any measures have been adopted. Of late the popular mind has been agitated, and mutual distrust has sprung up between the governors and the governed (lit. the upper and the lower), and a state of things has arrived in which it cannot be denied that there are signs of destruction and ruin being ready to break forth at any moment. The cause of this we profoundly regret to say is the suppression of the general opinion of the empire as ascertained by public discussion.

We trust that you will give these remarks due consideration.

17th January, 1874.

SOYEJIMA TANEOMI,
Samurai of the Saga *ken*.
 GÔTÔ SHÔJIRÔ,
Samurai of the Tôkiô-Fu.
 ITAGAKI TAISKE,
Samurai of the Kôchi *ken*.
 ETÔ SHIMPEI,
Samurai of the Saga *ken*.
 MITSUOKA HACHIRO,
 YURI KIMMASA,
Samurai of the Tsuruga *ken*.
 KOMURO NOBUO,
Samurai of the Miôdô *ken*.
 OKAMOTO KENZABURÔ,
Samurai of the Kôchi *ken*.
 FURUSAWA URÔ,
Samurai of the Kôchi *ken*.

To the Hon'ble Members of the SA-IN.

MEMORIAL.

When we humbly reflect upon the quarter in which the governing power lies, we find that it lies not with the Crown (the imperial house) on the one hand, nor with the people on the other, but with the officials alone. We do not deny that the officials respect the Crown, and yet the Crown is gradually losing its prestige (lit. honour and splendour), nor do we deny that they protect the people, and yet the manifold decrees of government appear in the morning and are changed in the evening, the administration is conducted in an arbitrary manner, rewards and punishments are prompted by partiality, the channel by which the people should communicate with the government is blocked up and they cannot state their grievances. Is it hoped that the empire can be peacefully ruled in this manner! An infant knows that it cannot be done. We fear therefore that if a reform is not effected the state will be ruined. Unable to resist the promptings of our patriotic feelings, we have sought to devise a means of rescuing it from this danger, and we find it to consist in developing public discussion by the empire. The means of developing public discussion is the establishment of a council-chamber chosen by the people. Then a limit will be placed to the power of the officials, and both governors and governed will obtain peace and prosperity. We ask leave then to make some remarks on this subject.

The people whose duty it is to pay taxes to the government possess the right of sharing in the direction of their government's affairs and of approving or condemning. This being a principle universally acknowledged, it is not necessary for us to waste words in discussing it. We therefore humbly pray that the officials will not resist this great truth. Those who just now oppose the establishment of a council-chamber chosen by the people say: "Our people are wanting in culture and intelligence, and have not yet advanced into the region of enlightenment. It is too early yet to establish a council-chamber elected 'by the people.'" If it really be as they say, then the way to give to the people culture and intelligence and to cause them to advance swiftly into the region of enlightenment is to establish a council-chamber chosen by the people. For in order to give our people culture and intelligence and to cause them to advance into the region of enlightenment, they must in the first place be induced to protect their rights, to respect and value themselves, and must be inspired with a spirit of sympathy with the griefs and joys of the empire, which can only be done by giving them a voice in the concerns of the empire. It has never happened that under such circumstances the people have been content to remain in a backward condition or have been satisfied with want of culture and intelligence. To expect that they shall acquire culture and intelligence by themselves and advance by themselves into the regions of enlightenment, is like 'waiting a hundred years for the water to clear.*' The worst argument they put forward is that to establish a council chamber at once would be simply to assemble all the blockheads in

the empire. What shocking self conceit and arrogant contempt for the people this indicates! No doubt amongst the officials there are men who surpass others in intelligence and ingenuity, but how do they know that society does not contain men who surpass them in learning and knowledge? Whence it may be inferred that the people of the empire are not to be treated with such arrogant contempt. If again they deserve to be treated with arrogant contempt, are the officials themselves not a part of the nation; in which case they also are wanting in culture and intelligence. Between the arbitrary decisions of a few officials and the general opinion of the people as ascertained by public discussion, where is the balance of wisdom and stupidity? We believe that the intelligence of the officials must have made progress as compared with what it was previous to the Reformation,† for the intelligence and knowledge of human beings increase in proportion as they are exercised. Therefore to establish a council-chamber chosen by the people would promote the culture and intelligence of the people and cause them to advance rapidly into the region of enlightenment. The duty of a government and the object which it ought to promote in the fulfilment of that duty is to enable the people to make progress. Consequently in uncivilized ages, when manners were barbarous, and the people fierce, turbulent and unaccustomed to obey, it was of course the duty of a government to teach them to obey, but our country is now no longer uncivilized, and the tractableness of our people is already excessive. The object which our government ought therefore now to promote is by the establishment of a council-chamber chosen by the people to arouse in our people a spirit of enterprise, and to enable them to comprehend the duty of participating in the burdens of the empire and sharing in the direction of its affairs, and then the people of the whole country will be of one mind.

How is a government to be made strong? It is by the people of the empire becoming of one mind. We will not prove this by quoting ancient historical facts. We will show it by the change in our government of October last. How great was its peril! What is the reason of our government standing isolated? How many of the people of the empire rejoiced at or grieved over the change in the government of October last? Not only was there neither grief nor joy on account of it, but eight or nine out of every ten of the people of the empire were utterly ignorant that it had taken place, and they were only surprised at the disbanding of the troops. The establishment of a council-chamber chosen by the people will create community of feeling between the government and the people, and they will mutually unite into one body. Then and only then will the country become strong. Then and only then will the government be strong.

We have now proved our position by universal principles, by the political actual state of our country, by the duty of a government and by the change which occurred in our government in October last. Our belief in the justice of our views is strengthened, and we are firmly of opinion that the only way to maintain and develop the destinies of (lit. to move up) the Empire is to establish a Council-Chamber chosen by the people and to develop public discussion by the Empire. We will not here enlarge upon the manner in which the idea is to be wrought out, as that would occupy too much space.

We are informed that the present officials, under the pretence of being conservative, are generally averse from progress, and they nickname those who advocate reforms 'the rash progressists,' and oppose their opinions with the two words 'too early.' We ask leave to make an explanation here.

In the first places we do not comprehend the phrase 'rash progression.' If by 'rash progression' is meant measures which are heedlessly initiated, then it is a Council-Chamber chosen by the people which will remedy this heedlessness. Do they mean by 'rash progression,' the want of harmony between the different branches of the Administration, and the postponement of urgent matters to the less pressing during a period of reform, so that the measures carried out are wanting in unity of plan? The cause of this is the want of a fixed law in the

* A quotation from the *Taochuan*. The Yellow river is said to be a muddy stream, but to become clear at interval of a thousand years. The text says 'a hundred,' which is no doubt a slip of the pen.

† i.e. The restoration of the Mikado.

country, and the fact that the officials* proceed according to the bent of their own inclinations. The existence of these two things proves the necessity for establishing a Council-Chamber chosen by the people. Progress is the most beautiful thing in the world, and is the law of all things moral and physical. Men actuated by principle† cannot condemn this word progress, but their condemnation must be intended for the word 'rash,' for the word 'rash' has no connection with a Council-Chamber chosen by the people.

We are not only unable to comprehend what the words 'too early' have to do with a Council-chamber elected by the people, but our opinion is directly the opposite of what this phrase expresses. For if a Council-chamber chosen by the people were established to-day, we may fairly suppose that it could not be expected to be in complete working order until many months and years had elapsed. We are only afraid therefore of a single day's delay in establishing it, and therefore we say that we hold the exact opposite of this opinion.

Another argument of the officials is that the Council-chambers now existing in European and American states were not formed in a day, but were only brought into their present state by gradual progress, and therefore we cannot to-day copy them suddenly. But gradual progress has not been the case of Council-chambers only; all branches of knowledge and science and mechanical art are subject to the same condition. The reason why foreigners have perfected this only after the lapse of centuries, is that no examples existed previously and these had to be discovered by actual experience. If we can select examples from them and adopt their contrivances, why should we not be successful in working them out? If we are to delay using steam machinery until we have discovered the principles of steam for ourselves, or to wait until we have discovered the principles of electricity before we construct an electric telegraph, our government will be unable to set to work.

Our object in seeking to prove that a council-chamber elected by the people ought to-day to be established in our country, and that the degree of progress amongst the people of this country is sufficient for the establishment of such a council-chamber, is not to prevent the officials from making use of various pretexts for opposing it, but we are animated by the desire that by establishing such a council-chamber, public discussion by the empire may be developed, the rights of the people be established, the spirit of the empire be roused to activity, the affection between governors and governed be made closer, sovereign and subject be brought to love each other, our imperial country be maintained and its destinies developed, and prosperity and peace be assured to all. We shall esteem ourselves fortunate if you will adopt our suggestions.

January 23rd, 1874.

OPINION OF THE *Sa-In*.

With respect to the memorial presented by Soyejima Taneomi, a *Samurai* of the *Saga ken*, and seven others, upon the subject of the establishment of a Council-Chamber chosen by the people, the principle is an excellent one, and this College (the *Sa-In*) having received sanction to a similar proposal already made by itself, has draughted a set of regulations. The suggestion therefore will be adopted. At the same time, in view of the instructions issued last year to the *Fu* and *ken* with respect to local assemblies, and of the fact that the Home Office has just been constituted, we recommend to the Council of State (*Sei-In*) that the Home Office should be called upon to give its opinion, and that after the local Assemblies shall have been opened, the question of a Council-Chamber chosen by the people should then be taken up.

* There is probably a mistake in the *Nishin Shinjishi*; *Yūshi*, men of principle for *Yūshi*, officials; both words are pronounced in the same way.
† Perhaps the same mistake has occurred here, and the word 'officials' should be substituted for 'men of principle.'

OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD.

PART VIII.

Whereunto, I can none otherwise answer, but that he who will throw a stone at curie dog which barketh had need of a great satchel or pocket.

GASCOIGNE to the Rev. Devines.

For God's word condemneth the dumb dogs that will not bark and give warning of His pleasure.

BURNET, Records, Vol. II. Pt. II. b. I. No. 59.

"Ha! ha! ha! It's the very best story that ever was told, I vow and declare. I would not have missed hearing it for worlds. Good morning Mr. Stone-mason, I wish you all the compliments of the season."

A momentary halt to make his bow, and off he goes again laughing more boisterously than ever, and as he snaps his fingers at stray dogs who turn round to look after him, and at passers by who are startled and step aside, he's like nothing so much as a damp cracker that fizzes a bit, and explodes when least expected. To look at him cursorily, who'd have thought it was our friend the little barber? He's dressed so bravely, and effects such a swagger in his walk, that he looks at least an inch taller than usual and quite a roystering blade. There's a curious unsteadiness in his gait to-day which an enemy—if he had one,—might perchance be ill-natured enough to attribute to any other cause rather than the slippery state of the road. But what if he did? Does not every body know how difficult it is to walk undeviatingly on wooden clogs when ice is on the ground? And isn't it freezing hard to-day? His face, if one may judge from the trifling amount of it which can be seen for his head gear, is red and shiny-looking and his eyes bright; but then the air of "Our Neighbourhood" is remarkable for its bracing properties, and even the old women look pippin-cheeked and comely in such weather, and why shouldn't he? And so he goes on his way laughing and snapping his fingers, and beaming and happy. Nay, so beaming does he appear to be, that a subtle and ethereal fragrance seems to proceed from him, and waft itself towards the passers-by as he pursues his devious way, and it has been asserted—so ill-natured and censorious is rumour—that this aforesaid fragrance bore a singular and remarkable resemblance to the odour of *saké*. But then the Maccaroni Woman said it was the surly Clog-maker that told her, and who ever minded what that vinegar-faced rogue averred? And even supposing for a moment that he really told the truth, what if it *was saké* that the little man smelt of? Isn't it New Year and a holiday? And does New Year and a holiday come round every month? Behind his father trudges with an air of great importance the fledgling barber, the *barberino*, bearing upon a wooden tray a present which is carefully covered with a silken cloth embroidered with gold thread, but which, for all that, seems far from secure from a fall on the road, so absorbed is its mannikin bearer in an attempt to follow exactly in the footsteps of his worthy parent, which, to say truth, is no easy matter, owing to this zig-zag method of progression. It may be readily conjectured that the pair are intent on a new year's call and their destination is soon seen to be the *saké* shop, where their summons to be admitted is answered by the tapster in person, who bows profoundly as he surveys his visitors with one eye, whilst he takes an observation of the sky with the other and answers, with a smile:—"The same to you"—to the barber's "How do you do, I wish you a happy new year, and am glad to find you well. I am afraid," continues the little man, "that this is a very poor present which I offer you" as he transfers the gift from the hands of his son to those of his friend,—"but I hope you'll accept it as a token of my esteem and regard for you."

"Thank you very much; on the contrary, it is a very handsome present. But won't you come in and partake of a little refreshment?"

Nothing loth, the offer is at once accepted, and the three are soon comfortably seated round a flowing fire and partaking of the good things which the hospitable tapster has produced for their delectation, amongst which be sure that a cup of good wine well warmed is not forgotten. There are no customers to try his temper to-day. The shop is closed, and the master is away, so the host is bent upon enjoying himself, and the gossip of "Our Neighbourhood" has in him a complacent and

smiling auditor of the stories he is so full of and retails so well.

"Did you hear the narrative of the dogs?", he enquires of his friend, hardly waiting for his answer in the negative to laugh boisterously and clap his hands as the humour of it tickles his fancy. "It's the most diverting tale I ever heard and it is in every man's mouth. I told it to the blind priest this morning and he declared I burst his liver. Thank you, well, just one cup more, and then I'll tell you all about it."

"Be it known to you then, that a Japanese dog who had contracted an intimacy with one of foreign extraction, overpowered with admiration and envy of his friend, was desirous of learning from him, with a view of bettering his own condition, how it happened that their respective conditions in society were so very different. "How comes it to pass," enquired he, "that you foreign dogs are so much better treated than we? You are washed and fed, and kept in the house and made companions of by your master, whilst we are kicked and cuffed and get naught but fish-guts for our food, and if we so much as put our noses inside the kitchen, are perhaps soused with hot water."

"Oh because you're a rough lot and useless withal. You are good for nothing but barking, and as regards that too you bark at everybody without distinction. Whether it be a visitor or your master going in, or out of, the house, it's all one to you. Now, we never bark at any body but a robber, and otherwise conduct ourselves decently and quietly."

"You truly state the case as far as we Japanese dogs are concerned, I am afraid, but as example is better than precept, may I request that you'll give me a little instruction in deportment? I am most desirous of occupying the same place in the estimation of my master as you enjoy in yours, and will feel very grateful for any hints which you may feel inclined to impart."

"I'll be delighted, I am sure, to be of any assistance in my power, and as I am going out for a walk, you cannot do better than accompany me and observe my demeanour. Now my good friend don't lurch about in that lazy fashion; such a gait may suit a butcher's cur, but is wholly inadmissible in a dog of quality. You see with what ease and elegance I trot along. Nothing confers such an air of good breeding as attention to such matters. A thought less curl in the tail; head well up, and, just a trifle, on one side. H'm, yes, that will do, but before we start, no barking and yelping, if you please. The only occasion on which we ought to indulge in such noises being, as I told you before, when thieves are present, and then it is always right to raise an alarm."

With such and many other pieces of useful advice on the one part and much deferential acquiescence on the other, the two dogs pursued their way very pleasantly and profitably, visiting many places and projecting many future excursions, and there is no saying what might not have resulted from their friendship had not business or pleasure carried their footsteps to the Okurasho, where, to the horror and dismay of the foreign dog, his native bred companion, taking a hasty survey of the place, was seen to raise his head in the air, and throwing his ears back, to set up such a howling and barking that the very sparrows in the gutters ceased their chattering for a moment to see what was up, and the foreign dog was at his wits' end how to put a stop to the din. Seizing an opportunity of a pause for breath, however, he proceeded to rate his friend soundly for his misconduct. "There you go again," he says. "You could not hold your tongue for a couple of hours, but must take advantage of a public place like this to make yourself ridiculous, and disgrace me."

"What!" returns the Japanese dog in an outraged tone:—"Did you not tell me that I should always bark at thieves?"

"Of course I did, what then?"

"Why, I've taken a look round here, and as I see none but thieves, I've followed your advice, that's all!"

The little barber ceased, and when the mirth which the story had occasioned had subsided, the tapster, having filled his pipe and lighted it, sat smoking in silence for a moment, looking contemplatively on the fire with one eye, whilst the roving one danced unrestrainedly over the remains of the feast which lay

scattered around, and finally as he raised his head to speak, dived into a cobweb which an impudent spider had spun in the corner of the *tokonoma*.

"Yes," he observed, "your story is indeed a good one, and reminded me of the Kamishimo thief which you have no doubt heard of before this."

"No, indeed, I cannot say I have, and I would gladly hear it, but that it is so late, and I must be going. I thank you for the entertainment. I have enjoyed the benefit of your society for the past year, and I hope I may continue to do so."

"You are very kind, and I am sensible of the honour you have done me in calling on me so quickly. I hope you'll come and pay me a long visit when the days lengthen."

"I shall be delighted, and I hope you'll reciprocate the call."

"I shall not fail to do so. Good bye. Good bye."

Yedo, 10th January, 1874.

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A regular meeting of the Society was held in room No. 19 of the Grand Hotel, on the 14th January, 1874, the President, J. C. Hepburn, Esq., M. D., taking the chair at half-past eight p.m.

After the reading and confirmation of the minutes of the last regular meeting, the following gentlemen were announced as having been duly elected resident members of the Society:—

Mr. R. W. Irwin—proposed by Rev. S. R. Brown, D. D. seconded by R. B. Baker, Esq. Mr. H. Dyer, and Mr. J. R. Wasson—proposed by Sir H. S. Parkes, K. C. B.; seconded by Rev. S. R. Brown, D. D.

The action of the council in the appointment of Mr. R. M. Brown as Recording Secretary, and Mr. T. Walsh as a Member of the Council, was confirmed by the Society.

Captain Bridgford then read his paper on "Yezo, a description of the Ishi-kari River, and the new Capital, Satsuporo" which was attentively received, and for which a vote of thanks was returned by the Society.

The President, observing several gentlemen in the room who were well acquainted with the country described in Capt. Bridgford's paper, expressed the hope that they would favour the Society with some remarks.

Sir Harry Parkes observed that he had listened to Capt. Bridgford's paper with great interest, as he believed it to be the first account that had been published here, and foreigners, being restricted by treaty limits in Yezo as closely as elsewhere, although it might be supposed that no harm could result from their travelling in so wild an island, where they would only occasionally meet an Aino or a bear, had been obliged to confine their excursions to the promontory in the vicinity of Hakodate. Capt. Blakiston, however, under exceptional circumstances, had travelled, in 1869, from Hamanaka Bay, on the east coast, right round to Cape Iwanai, on the west coast, from whence he returned to Hakodate by way of the Ishikari River, Tubuts, and Volcano Bay. The recent journey to Hakodate from Nemoro, on the east coast, of the party belonging to the *Swallow*, after that vessel had been abandoned at Nemoro, has completed our itineraries of the whole coast of Yezo. It was reserved, however, for Capt. Bridgford to introduce us to the centre of the island, and to describe its principal river. The accounts he gave of the absence of population—246 Ainos being the sole occupants of the extensive plains which he describes—show how little has yet been made of Yezo by the Japanese. Its area, estimated since H. M. S. *Sylvia* made a running survey of the coast at 34,605 square miles, is nearly three thousand miles larger than Ireland. The latter has, however, a population of five and a half millions; while Yezo, according to the census published, contains only 123,668. It seems doubtful whether Yezo has advanced at all since Yoshi-tsune, the brother of the celebrated Shogun Yoritomo, went there at the close of the twelfth century. The climate is by no means severe. Eight years' observations at Hakodate give the minimum at 2 degs. above zero, Fahrenheit, and 84 degs. as the maximum. The capacity of its vast plains for producing hemp, wheat, and every kind

of grain, rice, perhaps excepted, is described by Capt. Bridgford; but as yet these plains remained untilld. It was disappointing to observe the stationary condition of the foreign commerce at Hakodate. It makes no advance, and depends solely upon the fisheries of the island, as there is no population to consume imports to any extent. The fisheries, although splendidly productive, do not flourish as they should, on account of the heavy taxation. This was stated to be as high as 25 or 30 per cent. of the yield. Such heavy taxation prevented the settlement of population, and made fishing a highly speculative business, which people engaged in for a season only. It was the old story of killing the goose that lays the golden eggs. The Kaitakushi Department had recently taken the island in hand, and had spent large sums of money without apparently, however, increasing production. A large road, varying from 30 to 45 feet wide, had been constructed from Hakodate to Satsporo, and a town called a Capital, and containing a Capital copied from foreign models, had been constructed there. What they were going to do with a town in such a place did not very clearly appear. It has no trade, and consists solely of the officials sent there. Roads of the dimensions named seemed also superfluous in a country which did not possess a vehicle, and one could not help thinking of the much greater length of smaller roads, of which the island is so deplorably in want, which might have been made for the same outlay. The Japanese officials, it may be said, may spend their money as they please, and so they may, if they have no fear of taxpayers; but of course, they must expect to meet with criticism, especially when large sums are expended with small results. He would repeat that it was a pity that Yezo, of which so much might be made, should be suffered to remain such an unproductive wilderness. Hemp might furnish a most valuable crop; and the recent exportation of upwards of twenty thousand piculs of wheat from Hiogo, showed that Japan can supply that grain to European markets. On the virgin soil of Yezo, and with such a suitable climate, heavy crops of wheat might be looked for. He would not dwell upon the productive capacities of this fine island, as there were others in the room who were particularly well qualified to treat on that subject. He only hoped that the Japanese would take their counsel, and, profiting by their aid, would really do something toward developing the resources of Yezo.

General Capron, referring to the remarks of Capt. Bridgford, regarding the ease with which hemp could be grown in large quantities in Yezo, said that as yet no machinery had been invented which could separate the hemp fibre properly, and prepare it for manufacture, owing to the extreme fineness of the fibre. Japanese hemp is the finest in the world, and commanded the highest prices in London, being valued at about three times the price of Manila hemp; still, owing to the very fact of its fineness, as yet its use was limited to but a few purposes.

Mr. W. H. Smith said that some eight years ago he had sent samples of Japanese hemp to London, the finest of which was valued at £90 per ton, when most Manila hemp was £30 per ton.

General Capron said that there were very extensive coal fields in Yezo, but that it would be quite difficult to bring the coal, when mined, to the sea coast, and doubted if it could be done remuneratively without large capital, which would be needed for the construction of railroads.

Mr. J. R. Wasson, speaking of the Ishikari river, said that there were fourteen feet of water on the bar at the mouth. For four months of the year the river is frozen, and the spring floods are constantly changing the channel on the bar, which would make it necessary to buoy out the channel after every flood.

The meeting then adjourned.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH MEETING.

THE Annual Meeting of this body was held on Tuesday, the 27th instant, at the British Consulate for the purpose of electing Office-bearers for the ensuing year, the consideration of the accounts, and the transaction of other business affecting the interests of the Church.

Mr. Consul Robertson occupied the Chair.

The Chairman briefly indicated the subjects which would be brought before the meeting. With regard to the mode of voting he stated that according to the Act those subscribers only were qualified to vote who had paid a sum of £20 in addition to an annual subscription of £3. Many there present who had no doubt attended with this intention would thus be debarred from exercising the privilege though largely interested in the question of increasing the pew-rents. He suggested that it would, perhaps, be better to deal only with the formal business on the present occasion and to defer the consideration of other matters to a Special Meeting to be called for the purpose.

Mr. Wilkin enquired if any steps had been taken to reduce the Church debt in compliance with the resolution adopted at the last General Meeting.

The resolution in question having been read and the minutes of the Meeting held in December 1873 having been confirmed the following Report was submitted.

REPORT of the Special Committee on Ways and Means, appointed at the Adjourned General Meeting of Subscribers to the Episcopal Church at Yokohama, held 26th December, 1873.

To the Subscribers of Christ Church, Yokohama.

GENTLEMEN.—We beg to submit for your consideration the results of our various consultations, which are as follows, viz:—

ORDINARY EXPENDITURE AND RECEIPTS:—Upon careful examination of the Accounts, and taking the average of the past three years, we find that the ordinary expenditure on the Church Buildings and Parsonage is made up in the following manner, viz:—Ground Rent \$179; Fire Insurance on \$10,000, \$290; Lighting and Petties \$60; Wages, &c. \$77; Coal and Printing \$60; Tuning Organ \$100; Repairs (average) \$500; together \$1,266; and that the Receipts from pew rents at present rates amount to \$2,773, leaving an overplus of only \$1,507. It is therefore evident that some means must be devised to increase the receipts, so as to provide an adequate salary for the Incumbent.

INCREASE OF PEW RATES:—We have fully discussed the scheme suggested by Mr. James at the Adjourned General Meeting of Subscribers held on the 26th ultimo, whereby he proposed that the pew rents should be raised, from their present rate, to \$25 per single sitting, and \$130 for the whole pew; and, after taking the opinion of nearly all the seat-holders on the subject, we are unanimously agreed that it would be better to adopt a rate, from the 1st January, 1874, of \$20 per single sitting, and \$120 per pew, per annum; excepting only a few sittings situated near the organ, which should be let at a cheaper rate, to be fixed by the Trustees. And we are also of opinion that all subscriptions should be paid up to the 30th June and 31st December, in each year. Persons subscribing during the intervals should pay ratably up to those dates.

We estimate that the Income accruing from the foregoing scheme will yield, in round numbers, about \$3,600, which, after deducting the Annual Expenditure, will leave a balance of about \$2,400.

We may mention that nearly all the present seat-holders have agreed to pay the proposed increase of pew rents, and, in many instances, have expressed their willingness to agree to the payment of a larger subscription, if found necessary.

LIQUIDATION OF DEBT:—With regard to the liquidation of the debt, as decided at the last meeting of subscribers, we received a letter from Mr. Consul Robertson, dated 26th Dec., stating that, on reconsideration, he thought it inadvisable to telegraph the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, but that he was prepared to pay at once the equivalent of £400 sterling, the Government grant for 1873, and to write to the Foreign Office for permission to hand over the remaining £400 (grant for 1874) as soon as possible.

We have taken upon ourselves to accept, with thanks, Mr. Robertson's proposal, and have further made application to one of the Banks to advance the equivalent of the second £400 sterling, at a lower rate of interest than the subscribers are at present paying, so as to enable the Committee to discharge the whole of the debt of \$3,600 with as little delay as possible, and we are glad to say that our application has met with success. The Manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank has agreed to advance the required sum at 5 per cent. per annum; taking an hypothecation of the Government Grant for the year 1874.

THE REV. E. W. SYLE:—The subscribers are aware that the arrangements made with the Acting Incumbent, for one year, terminated on the 31st March, 1873, and that Mr. Sytle has continued to officiate up to the present time without any formal renewal of the said arrangement. The monthly payments made to this gentleman by the Committee, as shewn in the account, were as follows, viz:—

From 1st April, 1872, to 31st March, 1873,	} less: £40 Sterling per year for Rent of Parsonage.
\$200 per month.....	
From 31st March, 1873, to 31st December, 1873, \$275 per month.....	

We have, through the Treasurer, acquainted Mr. Sytle with the condition and prospects of our finances; and, in paying him, in advance, (as usual) the allowance of \$275 for the current month, have given him to understand that the funds available will admit of payments at the same rate until the end of the current quarter (March 31st); from which date such new arrangements must be made as the next Committee may deem expedient.

We remain, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servants,

W. W. CARGILL,
T. JACKSON,
W. H. SMITH,
E. D. MURRAY,
F. S. JAMES.

Mr. Howell moved and Mr. Pitman seconded the adoption of the Report.

The Chairman pointed out that the adoption of the Report would imply the competency of the Meeting to deal with the question of the increase of the pew rents, and submitted the propriety of deferring the consideration of this important question for the present. In the course of a few months the pew-renters will have larger powers of voting.

Mr. Cargill thought that the incoming Committee for the present year should be prepared to take up the question.

Mr. Boyle suggested that the Report should be in detail.

Mr. G. P. Ness coincided with this suggestion. He considered the Meeting competent to adopt the Report notwithstanding the qualification defined by the Regulations.

Mr. Wilkin pointed out that the Consular Constitution of the Church would be continued for the next six months, and suggested that the clause of the Report affecting pew rents should be then and there discussed. Another meeting could be held six months hence, and the course decided upon now might be reversed if it should be found unworkable.

Mr. W. H. Smith thought the present Meeting fully competent to deal with the Report in its entirety.

Mr. Howell considered the Meeting properly constituted and thought the usual mode of proceeding should be adhered to.

The Chairman said he felt bound to consider the interest of the large number of renters who were not at the same time subscribers.

Mr. Cargill thought the question should be remitted to an Extraordinary General Meeting and proposed a motion to that effect which was seconded by Mr. Wilkin.

Mr. W. H. Smith moved as an amendment that the meeting should discuss the question of Ways and Means, but this was overruled by

The Chairman who stated that such amendment would be contrary to the Act.

Mr. W. H. Smith thought that this was tantamount to a refusal on the part of the Chairman to receive the Report, to which

The Chairman assented.

Mr. Cargill's motion was then put to the Meeting and carried.

Mr. Cargill suggested that the election of Office-bearers should next be proceeded with. The retiring Committee had acted with much judgment and he thought that they should re-elect them. It would, however, be necessary to appoint a successor to Mr. Jackson, who was about to leave Yokohama. He proposed the following gentlemen as Committee for the ensuing year; Messrs. W. H. Smith, Murray, and James. The motion on being put to the Meeting was carried.

In reply to Mr. Cargill,

The Chairman stated that upon the requisition of two qualified subscribers he would appoint an Extraordinary Meeting.

Mr. Wilkin proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman which was carried. The Meeting then separated.

YOKOHAMA FIRE BRIGADE.

The following Report was read at the adjourned General Meeting of the Fire Brigade, held on the 28th instant, at the Chamber of Commerce:—

REPORT.

The Committee of the Yokohama Fire Brigade beg to submit their annual report, and the accounts of the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer for the year 1873. The subscriptions collected during the past year show a decrease of \$252, as compared with 1872: the contributions from Insurance Companies being \$200, and from Chinese merchants \$52 less than the previous year. On the other hand, the working expenses of the Brigade have been slightly smaller than in 1872; the total expenditure being \$874.91, against \$939.30. At the last general meeting, held on the 5th February, 1873, an expenditure was authorised for new engines, and it was left to your Committee to decide whether it would be better to purchase a steam fire engine, or two more hand engines. Their decision having been given in favour of the former, negotiations were opened with the Japanese authorities, with the view of purchasing a steam fire-engine, belonging to the Kaitakushi Department, then stationed at Hakodate. Through the courtesy of the agent of the Pacific Mail Company, a report on the engine was obtained from one of the Company's engineers; and this being considered satisfactory, your Committee offered to buy it from the Department. The price offered was not, however, accepted by the Japanese, who asked a much larger sum, and your Committee, unable to come to an agreement, had finally, in May last, to give up all idea of purchasing the engine for the Brigade. The next step taken was to obtain estimates from Messrs. Shand, Mason & Co., and Merryweather & Sons, of London; and these having been received, a careful comparison of them led your Committee to decide on ordering from the former firm a London Brigade Steam Fire Engine, of best quality, with full supply of hose, &c., capable of pumping 300 gallons of water per minute, to cost laid down here about \$2,800. The order was sent in September last, and, although no reply has been received as yet from Messrs. Shand, Mason & Co., the engine may be expected to arrive here in the course of a month or two from date, as instructions were given to ship it by steamer, *via* the Suez Canal.

Your Committee have pleasure in stating that, during the past year, fires have been even less frequent than in 1872—four only having occurred in the Foreign Settlement; and they take this opportunity of thanking the other Fire Companies of Yokohama, for all assistance rendered on such occasions.

The two hand engines, which are the only ones of any use at present owned by the Brigade (the remaining Dutch engine having been disposed of for the sum of \$285), are in tolerably good working order; but they are ten years old, and cannot be expected to last much longer, and your Committee would, accordingly, recommend that their successors in office be authorised to order out, during the year, one or more new ones, to replace them, as the funds at their disposal may warrant. The old engines might then be disposed of here, as occasion offered.

Your Committee have, further, much pleasure in testifying to the satisfactory manner in which the Superintendent, Mr. Davis, has discharged the duties of his post.

In conclusion, your Committee, consisting of Messrs. Benson, Hurlbut, and Fraser—Messrs. Spence and Glennie having left the Settlement, the latter temporarily—beg to tender their resignation; and they venture to express the hope, that the community of Yokohama will continue to afford its cordial support to the Brigade, as has hitherto been the case.

For the Committee,

J. A. FRASER,
Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

Yokohama, January, 1874.

Since the foregoing report was written, a reply has been received from Messrs. Shand, Mason & Co., stating that the steam fire-engine, ordered for the Brigade, would be ready for shipment about the middle of November last.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT.

THE YOKOHAMA FIRE BRIGADE, IN ACCOUNT WITH J. A. FRASER, HON. SEC. & TREASURER.

1873.	DR.
March—To paid Ground Rent for 1873	\$ 87 28
April—To paid engineer "Relief" for survey on Fire Brigade	45 00
Oct. 8—To paid for bill on London, favour Shand, Mason & Co., £563 2s. 6d. @ 4s. 2½d	2,700 00
Dec. 31—To Working Expenses and Repairs for 1873	874 91
" " To Cash balance in Treasurer's hands	1,071 76
Total.....	\$ 4,758 95

1873.	Cr.
Jan. 1st—By Cash balance from 1872.....	\$1,668.95
February and April—By amount of Annual Subscriptions:—Firms, etc., \$1,155; Insurance Companies, \$1,400; Chinese, \$250.....	2,805.00
Dec.—By proceeds of sale of Dutch Engine to Japanese.....	285.00
Total.....	\$4,758.95

1873.
Dec. 31st—By balance brought down.....\$1,071.76
E. & O. E.

Yokohama, December 31st, 1873.

J. A. FRASER,
Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

The following fires have occurred during the past year:—

January 9th, at the United States Consulate outhouses.
January 28th, Nos. 37 and 38, Water Street. March 22nd, in the native town, a very large fire, consuming about 1,500 houses. May 30th, at No. 114, on the Creek. June 15th, at No. 32, Water Street.

Law & Police.

H. B. M. PROVINCIAL COURT.

before RUSSELL ROBERTSON, Esq. Consul.

Monday, January 26th, 1874.

Charles Wagner was charged with refusing duty and insubordination to the master of the British vessel *Fiery Cross*.

Capt. Bates alleged that the prisoner had on the 24th inst. demanded his discharge and used menaces in order to induce him to grant it. The prisoner had left the ship on the 25th instant, and had not returned to his duty.

The prisoner admitted having left the ship, but stated this had always been permitted on Sunday without special leave.

This was denied by Captain Bates.

The prisoner was sentenced to six weeks imprisonment with hard labour.

C. Wagner was further charged with assaulting Thomas Ross-grove an officer of the foregoing ship.

Satisfactory evidence of the assault having been offered,

The Court fined him \$10.

C. Marsden, ship *Fiery Cross*, was charged with refusal of duty and the use of threats to the Master. He was sentenced to fourteen days imprisonment.

IN H. B. M.'s CONSULAR COURT.

Before RUSSELL ROBERTSON, Esq., Consul.

Friday, January 30th, 1874.

(Captain H. Leet, R.N., H. M. S. *Thistle*, was accommodated with a seat on the bench.)

Harvey Jeffries, who was sentenced to 7 days imprisonment, on the 23rd instant, for refusal of duty on board the British ship *Fiery Cross*, was this morning brought up, charged with being a deserter from H. M. S. *Rinaldo*. He pleaded guilty.

George Jones, Sailmaker's mate, H. M. S. *Thistle*, sworn:—I recognise the features of accused. Did not know his name. He was in the *Rinaldo* for a few days before I left her. He joined on 3rd or 4th April, and I left her on the 6th. I am sure he is the man.

Charles Bremner, Ship's Steward, *Thistle*, sworn:—I recognise prisoner as a man-of-war's man. I was on board the *Manilla*, and remember seeing him there.

David Galloway, Chief Quarter-master, *Thistle*, sworn:—The face of prisoner is very familiar to me, as that of a dingy boy of the *Rinaldo*.

Court ordered prisoner to be handed over to the Senior Naval Officer of the Station.—*Gazette*,

Extracts.

A VISIT TO JAPANESE CHARCOAL BURNERS.

(*Illego News*.)

When the fierce heat of midday had abated to about 75° F., we started for Kama-ga-hara, our destination, distant some fourteen English miles by road, though only about eight as the crow flies. For about half the distance we were able to avail ourselves of a good well-kept road, which led us through a rough and mountainous but extremely lovely district, where in places Nature might be viewed in

all her glory, unsullied by the hand of man, although the industrious peasantry had, with indefatigable patience and perseverance, brought under cultivation much land. In some instances great boulders had, with rough and primitive tools, been split to pieces and carried away, bit by bit, several years sometimes elapsing before the task was accomplished, only such time as could be spared from other more important work being devoted to it. In other cases, for the sake of a few feet of level ground, the same number of feet of perpendicular wall had to be built up ere the desired level plot could be obtained, and this process repeated up the side of a mountain gave the appearance of a huge flight of steps, terminating usually in dense forest and brushwood. Where even this method was not practicable the dense timber had simply been cleared away and a rough fence, made of any available material, erected around the clearing. As this fence was an unusual sight for us in Japan, we enquired its use, and were told it was intended to protect what was grown—generally wheat, rapeseed or beans—from the ravages of wild boar, which abounded in the mountains. Foxes also are very troublesome, owing to their great numbers: whenever the husbandmen plant sweet potatoes they have to enclose the spot so sown with a high bamboo fence, as otherwise Mr. Reynard would save them the trouble of having to dig up any crop. Our admiration was several times excited by the sight of some ingenious automatic contrivances worked by water and used to scare away such depredators.

After a rough and sole-destroying walk of a few hours, we left the road for a narrow bye-path, which towards its close—we having been beguiled by the coolness and fragrance of the air into many stoppages, which carried us far into the night—brought us to some most magnificent weird scenery. Imagine yourself, on a perfectly still May night, with a pale moon faintly shining through a shadowy rising mist, at the summit of a lonely mountain pass in a strange country, with not a living soul near you, the only sounds audible being the distant rushing of a turbulent stream on its headlong course far down below, or the gentle murmur of a faint breeze through the branches of the trees, with the occasional bark of a fox striking your ear with startling distinctness in the solitude, while high above you is a tall mountain peak capped with a stupendous black mass of rock and having immense boulders jutting out from its side, which appear suspended in the air over your head, and ready to drop and crush you at the faintest breath of wind, while the very road by which you have come is gradually obliterated by the rising mist which spreads like a sea around and below you. This will give you a faint idea of one of the spots we passed through before we arrived at the temple which, by the kindness of the local authorities, had been prepared for our reception and placed at our disposal during our stay.

On our arrival we were all glad to attack our provisions, such luxuries as tables and chairs not being much missed, and indeed at any time they can be very well dispensed with in a respectable Japanese dwelling—"as clean as a Japanese house" being almost a bye-word amongst foreigners out here. Luckily our provisions had been sent on in good quantity, for the next day, on sending out foragers to secure something fresh to add to our evening meal, their exertions were rewarded with the bountiful supply of—four eggs!—and that too in a village containing fifty houses. Of course ordinary native aliments, such as inferior rice, wheat (boiled whole and mixed with rice,) salted vegetables and fish were plentiful enough. The fowls which laid the eggs were unpurchasable, no doubt owing to the fact that we were in a Buddhist temple.

At early dawn the next morning we proceeded with our guide to the charcoal furnaces, situated at a considerable distance in the midst of wild and beautiful scenery, and approachable only by a rugged and dangerous path, which was hardly, to our eyes, discernible, no pains being taken to keep it in any kind of order, in some places the utmost caution being requisite to avoid being precipitated several hundred feet into a shallow brawling stream—(the boundary between the provinces of Aki and Nagato)—which bowled along gaily almost under our very feet. The mountaineers, one would think, would take some little trouble to make the way more practicable, as they have to traverse it repeatedly with heavy loads of charcoal, firewood or other commodities, strapped on their backs, and require their hands almost as much as their feet to get themselves along—transportation by any other means being impossible; but no, either they are so accustomed to perilous journeying that they are indifferent to the danger, or they cannot afford the time or the road is not intended as a permanency. The last is probably the principal reason, for when they fancy they can make a short cut, they have no scruple about setting fire to the underwood to assist

them in making the alteration, and then the previously-used road is abandoned entirely.

A couple of hours of exhausting work brought us to the charcoal furnaces, some half dozen being within a circuit of half a mile, and we had the good fortune to find them in every stage of activity. One or two had just been emptied, and the newly burnt charcoal was in process of being packed into small bales for the market; others were cooling down, and one which, according to our guide, had been lighted a couple of days previously for the occasion, was in full play and smoking furiously. In consequence of there being empty ones, we were enabled thoroughly to examine these really ingenious ovens. The following will make as plain as words can their structure and the manner of their use.

They are circular, and except in size, are exactly alike, varying in diameter from 7 to 10 feet, and in height from 4 to 6 feet, having a dome-shaped roof, the centre of which (inside) is from 5 to 7½ feet from the ground. They are made almost without the aid of tools, and only of such materials as are easily procurable at hand—mud or clay, unhewn stones and straw. A nice dry site near a thickly wooded spot having been selected and levelled, the circular well is erected, two feet thick, leaving at a convenient place a doorway two feet wide and the whole height of the wall. In the wall opposite the doorway there is constructed a flue, having its internal opening on a level with the floor of the furnace and its external one at the top of the wall. The next step is to get the roof on, which is done by first charging the furnace with billets of wood arranged perpendicularly till it will hold no more, the shortest being the same height as the wall and next to it, and the longest in the centre, so as to form a convex surface, which is made as smooth as possible with straw packing. Moist clay, properly mixed, is then spread over this and beaten into a compact mass; two small holes are then made at the top of the wall, each half way between the flue and the door, and two more between each of these and the flue, the furnace being then left to dry. After this has taken place, the charge inside is ignited, the doorway, with the exception of a small hole at the bottom, is filled with clay, and the whole of this first charge is allowed to burn completely away, thus putting the finishing touch to the furnace by baking it hard. Before the furnace is abandoned, which takes place when all the wood within easy distance has been used up, the roof has occasionally to be renewed. The whole structure is protected from the weather by a rough thatched roof elevated a few feet above it.

In manufacturing the charcoal the furnace is charged with billets of wood, built in perpendicularly, of such lengths as to touch the roof until within eighteen inches of the doorway, when they are shortened by about a third of their length, and on the top of these shortened ones is placed the material for kindling the charge, after which the inner part of the doorway (that part next the wood) is filled with clay for rather more than half its height, and the charge is fired. The outer part of the doorway is then filled in with clay to a thickness of several inches from the top downwards till near the ground, the opening then left being where the combustion is regulated. Combustion having thoroughly commenced, the four small holes at the top of the wall are plugged, and the draught, after rising through the interior of the whilom doorway, passes downwards through the charge to the internal orifice or flue on the level of the floor, and rising through the opposite wall, finds an exit at its top.

To each furnace there are two men, who watch by turns, day and night, and whose experience teaches them from the nature of the smoke which issues from the flue, when the charge is sufficiently burnt, which time varies from one to three days. The smoke is at first thick and white, afterwards becoming much less dense and of a light blue color, and when this change is sufficiently established, the doorway and flue are plugged and the furnace left for two or three days to cool. The charcoal is then discharged, cut into lengths, packed in bags or bales, and carried on the backs of the burners, to their native villages, whence it finds its way to the nearest market town. The price is regulated pretty much by the burners, for if they find it becoming too cheap, they leave off burning till a better demand arises. They are enabled to do this, as they are mostly all holders of a little agricultural land, and woods are in a measure conserved for the benefit of the local people, strangers having to pay a tax for the privilege of being allowed to burn.

The above is the way in which hard charcoal—or hard wood charcoal—is made; the burning of soft charcoal—that made from pine wood—is a much simpler and quicker process, and is conducted in the following manner. A circular spot of ground about four feet in diameter is slightly hollowed out, and in the

green pine wood is placed and ignited, and on this the billets of pine, cut very short, are laid. When the first layer has ignited, another one is laid on and so on with as much as is to be burnt; should the mass burst into flame, water is thrown on it. Charcoal is made in this manner in a day, and is only about one third the value of the other kind; the demand for it is comparatively small, as it is used only by blacksmiths. This latter process we had an opportunity of seeing as we returned, which we did the next day, heartily pleased with our trip, and with the courtesy, kindness and hospitality of the country people, to whom we must have been curiosities, no foreigners having ever been in that part of Japan before.

THE TRIAL OF MARSHAL BAZAINE. (*The Saturday Review.*)

It is an English rather than a French custom to wash the dirty linen of the nation in public. We rather pride ourselves on the process, and regard it as a proof of the courage that likes to know the worst and is determined to get at the bottom of things. For once in a way the French are imitating our example, not without many protestations on the part of sensitive Frenchmen against what they regard as a national humiliation which serves no good purpose; and so strongly do the opinions of the French influence those who live among them, that most of the English Correspondents at Paris seem to agree that the revelations made at the trial are very shocking, and that no good is gained by having them made. But this is scarcely the impression which the history of what is going on during the trial is calculated to produce in English readers on this side of the water. What is repulsive is not the record of what was said or done during the war, so much as the many expressions of bitter feeling and the puerile insults to political opponents which proceed from the lips of witnesses, or are to be found in journals which comment on the evidence. The evidence is often trivial, and still more often irrelevant; but this is almost always the case in French trials, and would not be worth noticing were it not that witnesses take the opportunity of gratifying their present political passions. We may be glad to think that under the English system the evidence of an officer would have been rigidly excluded who, as a contribution to the decision of Bazaine's guilt or innocence, deposed that when a prisoner in Germany he often heard German beer-drinkers exclaim "St. Gambetta pray for us," in derision of the famous person who was supposed to be leading France into the depths of ruin. The general character of the evidence does not place the conduct of Frenchmen during the war in any new unfavourable light. On the contrary, it has shown that there was a spirit of patriotism and a love of adventure which prompted many poor men to run the most serious risks in order to make themselves useful by carrying information through the enemy's lines. It shows that the Army of the Rhine behaved with bravery in action, and endured considerable privations with constancy. It may also, we think, be said to show that the chiefs in command inside Metz were in a position of very great difficulty, and honestly did their best after their own fashion. Lastly, it places in a clear light what may be termed the main circle of French misfortunes, out of which there was no moving, and which was this.—No one of any party, neither the Empress, nor Bazaine, nor Jules Favre, nor M. Thiers, was either able or willing to make peace in the September or October of 1870 on the only basis which the Germans would accept, the cession of territory. The military men, however, were all of opinion that the war could not be prolonged with any rational hopes of success. A civilian who believed in possibilities which to military men seemed impossibilities was the only man that could prolong the war, and this man was found in Gambetta. As Gambetta insisted that the war could and should be prolonged, the military men, or at least some of the best of them, obeyed him. But Gambetta was totally incompetent to devise or arrange military operations, and he sent his military men, and especially Bourdaki, to certain disaster. Thus France could only prolong the war by a machinery which made the prolongation of the war ruinous. But it was France, not Gambetta, that prolonged the war, and it is despicably unjust to reproach Gambetta for having gratified the wishes of the country. On the other hand, the military men were perfectly right in their appreciation of facts, and it is very unjust to them, when their conduct is criticized, to forget that they were right.

The evidence given against Marshal Bazaine is of the most multifarious kind, and much of it is hardly connected with the Marshal at all. It is, however, difficult to understand the value of evidence merely by reading it; and when evidence given on one side is denied pointblank on the other, it is generally hazardous to guess which

side is right without having had the advantage of seeing and hearing the witnesses. There are, therefore, minor points on which the Court may justifiably have conceived an opinion adverse to Bazaine. They may think, for example, that he received despatches which he states he never received, or that he may not have taken advantage of favourable circumstances which he alleges did not exist. But on the main heads of accusation so far as the evidence has as yet gone, what has been established appears to coincide much more closely with the statements published by Bazaine in the book he wrote in his defence than with the charges of the Government prosecutor. The first of these main heads of accusation is that, after the news of Sedan were received, Bazaine used his army not to fight, but to negotiate; whereas his army was quite capable of fighting with a good chance of a great success. Bazaine quite admits that he used his army to negotiate, but then he says that this was the best use he could possibly make of it. He asserts that the army could not have fought better than it did. He allowed it to fight to a certain extent, with the object of keeping up its spirit, as well as of making the enemy respect it and therefore of allowing better terms in negotiation, and of detaining as large a number of Germans as he could in the East of France. Throughout he made one mistake which almost every French general made also. He trusted far too much to subordinates, accepted statements without testing them, and took for granted that orders were executed because he had given them. If the object of the trial was to show that he was a second-rate man in every respect, the issue would be as clear as daylight. But when it is said that he made a wholly unsatisfactory defence with a guilty purpose, we want evidence to show that the defence was unsatisfactory. All the military men who were with him of high rank—and they were at least men, like Changarnier and Canrobert, of incontestable eminence after the French standard—bear witness that the army could not get through the enemy's lines, and that it was totally impossible to introduce supplies on any adequate scale. In one way their evidence is not worth much, for the conduct of the defence had their approval at the time, and so they too are to some extent on their trial. The Germans, it is well known, thought highly of Bazaine as a commander, the best English correspondents were of opinion that the Metz army could not break through, and no military critic of any reputation has suggested since the war that Bazaine ought to have been able to force his way out of Metz. This is all very vague in the way of evidence. But then what is the evidence given on the other side? It is impossible without reading it to appreciate its paltry and trivial character. It is the evidence of men totally incompetent to look at any but the tiny incidents that came under their own notice. It is the evidence of citizens of Metz who declare that they wondered then, and shall wonder to their dying day, how it happened that a certain number of sheep they had seen near a fort were not brought into the town, or how several pounds of bacon were unaccountably forgotten. It is the evidence of a Metz manufacturer who swears that he protested in vain that he and not some preferred rival was the right man to have a contract given him. It is the evidence of an enthusiast who reveals that he offered to the Commandant of Thionville to swim into Metz to carry despatches to Bazaine, and that he was basely prevented from swimming seven or eight kilometres under the noses of the Frussians. It is the evidence of two or three worthy creatures who declare that they happened on different occasions to be lurking on the extreme edge of the ground held by the French, and saw Bazaine go out in a mysterious way and talk with the enemy. All that can be said of this evidence is that it was mostly given by Frenchmen whom a hard fate has now made Germans, and that France need not perhaps grudge them the intense pleasure they seem to have experienced in giving testimony which they believed to be perfectly crushing against the traitor who has made them pass into the hands of the enemy.

Bazaine and all his generals admit that, if he had thrown all his force against the enemy, some soldiers would have got through. On one occasion a calculation was made, though not by Bazaine himself, that if the whole French army had been used in a sortie, one-third would have been killed, one-third driven back into Metz, and one-third would have got, in a disbanded and broken state, into the neighbouring woods, whence some of them at least might have made their way into Belgium, or joined other French forces. Bazaine says, and every impartial person must allow that there is much to be urged on behalf of his opinion, that it was much better for him to detain two hundred thousand Germans round Metz, and to use the army as a means of negotiation. But he states, and no evidence has been offered that in the least shakes his assertion, that he strictly confined himself to what came within his scope as a commander, negotiating for the surrender of his army with the honours of war.

Prince Bismarck entirely declined to negotiate on these terms. Either the surrender of the army of Metz must be a repetition of the surrender of the army of Sedan, or it must be a part of a general arrangement for peace. To negotiate peace was, in the opinion of Bazaine, entirely out of his province, and belonged only to the Government; and for him the Government meant only the Government of the Emperor, or rather of the Empress as Regent, and Prince Bismarck also told him that Germany would only negotiate with the Empress. Accordingly he allowed Regnier to conduct Bourbaki to Hastings, and later on sent General Boyer to Versailles. From Versailles General Boyer went to Hastings, and there learnt that the Empress would have nothing to do with a peace involving a cession of territory, and was occupied in trying to induce the Germans to accord exactly what Bazaine was aiming at, the concession of the honours of war to the Army of the Rhine. There were, in fact, three different persons or sets of persons with whom the Germans were to some extent negotiating. There was the Empress, there was the Government of National Defence, and there was M. Thiers with his combination for help from foreign Powers; and Prince Bismarck played off one against another. M. Jules Favre stated in his evidence that when he met Prince Bismarck in September the Prince asked him whether he thought he could count on the obedience of Bazaine, and the Prince was, in fact, at this moment in negotiation with Regnier. When Boyer went from Versailles to Hastings, Prince Bismarck told him that if the Empress would agree to make peace, Bazaine must engage to pledge the army to support her, to which the General replied that this looked too much like a pronouncement to be in accordance with the usages of the French army. But then it is said that, even if it were admitted that Bazaine might honestly think that the existing Government for him was that of the Empress, he ought to have sunk for the time every cause of difference and co-operated with the Government of National Defence, just as the Empress herself advised Bourbaki to go to Tours when he left her. Bazaine's answer is, that this might have been duty if he could have communicated with the Government of National Defence, or if that Government could have communicated with him. However much he had communicated with them, he could not have done more for them than he did by detaining two hundred thousand Germans round Metz till the last possible minute, but no doubt each party would have derived some advantage from communicating with the other. But neither party could communicate with the other. Gambetta, who gave evidence the same day as Jules Favre, could only say that it was very curious that none of his messengers arrived at Metz, and it was shown on fairly good testimony that shortly before the capitulation despatches from Bazaine were received at Tours, which were however useless, because they were in cipher and the key of this cipher was in Paris. Bazaine, no doubt, was full of hostile contempt for the new revolutionary Government, and he considered war conducted by enthusiastic civilians an absurdity. But it is very difficult to say precisely what he ought to have done on behalf of the Tours Government which he did not do, and to prove that he could have done it. What really annoyed the Tours Government, and made Gambetta issue his violent proclamation accusing Bazaine of treason, was not so much that he capitulated, but that he capitulated, ten days too soon for the success of the Army of the Loire. Bazaine quite admits that he would be deserving of the severest censure if he had capitulated ten days, or one day, before he was absolutely compelled to do so; and thus we are brought to the third great issue between the parties, that as to the terms and the time of the capitulation, the evidence as to which has not as yet begun.

HOW BIRDS LEARN TO SING AND BUILD.—What is instinct? It is the "faculty of performing complex acts absolutely without instruction, or previously acquired knowledge." Instinct, then, would enable animals to perform spontaneously acts which, in the case of man, pre-suppose ratiocination, a logical train of thought; but when we test the observed facts which are usually put forward to prove power of instinct, it is found that they are seldom conclusive. It was on such grounds that the song of birds was taken to be innate; albeit a very ready experiment would have shown that it comes from the education they receive. During the last century, Barrington brought up some linnets, taken from the nest in company with larks of sundry varieties, and found that every one of the linnets adopted completely the song of the master set over them, so that now these linnets—larks by naturalization—form a company apart, when placed among birds of their own species. Even the nightingale, whose native sound is so sweet, exhibits, under domestication, a considerable readiness to imitate other singing birds. The song of the bird is,

therefore, determined by its education, and the same must be true to nest-building. A bird brought up in a cage does not construct the nest peculiar to its species. In vain will you supply all the necessary materials; the birds will employ them without skill, and will oftentimes even renounce all purpose of building anything like a nest. Does not this well-known fact prove that, instead of being guided by instinct, the bird learns how to construct his nest, just as a man learns how to build a house?

ADMINISTRATION OF ARSENIC TO PHTHISICAL SUFFERERS.—*L'Union Médicale* sums up Dr. Jaccoud's experience of the above, as related in the recent publication of his clinical lectures. "Arsenic powerfully ameliorates the nutritive process in chronic pulmonary phthisis. It abates nervous excitement, and possesses a marked antifebrile action, which can combat efficaciously the evening intermittent attack. Dr. Jaccoud exclusively prescribes granules of arsenious acid, containing one milligramme each of the substance (1.16 gr.). They are taken at the beginning of the two principal meals. Dr. Jaccoud begins with two granules daily, and every eight days the dose is increased, until it attains from eight to ten a day, which is the maximum dose. This maximum dose is kept on as long as there is no production of acute symptoms, with pseudo-continued fever."

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Jan. 25, *Golden Age*, American steamer, Coy, 1,870, from Shanghai and Ports, January 17th, General, to P. M. S. S. Co.

Jan. 25, *Menzaleh*, French steamer, Mourrut, 1,006, from Hongkong, January 17th, Mails and General, to M. M. Co.

Jan. 26 *Orissa*, British steamer, Pockley, 1,193, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to P. & O. Co.

Jan. 29, *Flying Spur*, British barque, Croote, 735, from London, August 31st, General, to Wilkin & Robison.

DEPARTURES.

Jan. 24, *New York*, American steamer, Furber, 2,119, for Hakodate, General, despatched by P. M. S. S. Co.

Jan. 28, *Orissa*, British steamer, Pockley, 1,647, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by P. & O. Co.

Jan. 28, *Atlanta*, German steamer, Mangelsen, 701, for Hiogo, General, by Simon, Ervers & Co.

PASSENGERS.

Per American steamer *New York* for Hakodate.—Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Harris, and 17 Japanese.

Per French steamer *Menzaleh* from Hongkong.—Père Sacconi.

Per American steamer *Golden Age*, from Shanghai:—Messrs. E. Bibby, Yamao, Ishianshi, Kenta, P. A. Ramie, J. G. A. Godfrey, Woyeno, wife and child, Yoshikawa, R. V. Boyle, W. Rae, 6 Japanese, and 2 European, 21 Japanese, 1 Chinese in the steerage.

Per British steamer *Orissa*, from Hongkong.—Mr. and Mrs. Simons and children, Mss Wright, Messrs. J. B. Terry, Takeda, H. Greig, Grubb, Hall, and 3 Chinese.

Per British steamer *Orissa* for Hongkong.—Messrs. J. Maltby J. Pinel, James Smith, Thomas Cross, and 12 Chinese.

Per British ship *Flying Spur*, from London.—Messrs. Lewis and Goodfellow.

CARGOES.

Per American steamer *Golden Age*, from Shanghai:—

Treasure, value \$50,900 14 packages.

Per British steamer *Orissa* for Hongkong:—

Silk 315 bales.

REPORTS.

The P. M. S. S. *Golden Age* reports: left Shanghai, January 17th 9.20 a.m.; arrived at Nagasaki, January 19th 6.39 a.m.; experienced strong N. W. gales, with very heavy sea throughout the passage. Left Nagasaki, January 20th 0.16 a.m., stopped at wreck *Relief* near Ohree Channel 7.47 a.m., took on board 27 passengers, the purser, baggage, 12 packages of treasure and 5 bags U. S. mail-matter. 1.06 p.m. proceeded on our way back to Nagasaki, where we arrived at 6.54 p.m., landed passengers, treasure, mails, &c., and left again Jan. 21st—11 a.m., stopped and communicated with wreck *Relief*, 7.25 a.m., started again on our voyage 7.40 a.m. passed a French Ironclad 11.14 a.m. bound south, arrived at Hiogo Jan. 22nd, 5.59 p.m. had pleasant weather, from Nagasaki. Left Hiogo Jan. 23rd, 5.19 p.m. very pleasant weather smooth sea; arrived in Yokohama Jan. 25th, 6.47 a.m.

The British steamer *Orissa* reports head wind with moderate weather.

The Captain of the British barque *Flying Spur* reports the death of Wm. Royer, a passenger on the 4th instant of consumption.

The British ship *Flying Spur* from London reports pleasant weather during the passage until getting into the influence of the Ja-

panese stream; since then, for nearly a fortnight, the weather has been very rough and stormy until arrival in port on the afternoon of the 29th instant.

MERCHANT SHIPPING IN PORT.

STEAMERS.

		Destination.
Costa Rica	Williams	Shanghai and Ports
Golden Age	Coy	Shanghai and Ports
Menzaleh	Mourrut	Hongkong
Naruto	DuBois	Hiogo
Nil	Sanat	Hongkong

SAILING SHIPS.

Corea	460 Carr	New York
Eastern Chief	401 Carr	Uncertain
Fiery Cross	694 Bates	Uncertain
Flying Spur	735 Croote	Uncertain
Georgina	222 Mitchell	Uncertain
Lotte	386 Hildebrand	Uncertain
Vanguard	645 Luckes	Uncertain
Walton	481 Shield	Uncertain

VESSELS OF WAR IN HARBOUR.

H. M.'s gun-boat	Thistle	Captain H. Leet.
American corvette	Idaho	Lieut. Com. Nelson
American gun-boat	Suco	Captain McDougal

SHIPPING AT THE SOUTHERN PORTS.

The following are the latest Arrivals and Departures at Nagasaki and Kobé.

NAGASAKI SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

To 17th January.

ARRIVALS.—Jan. 10th, *Golden Age* str.; 11th, H. M. S. *Dwarf*; 12th, *J. H. Jessen* from Newcastle N.S.W.; 15th, *New York* str.; 17th, *Pride of the Thames*, from Shanghai.

DEPARTURES.—Jan. 12th, *Golden Age* str.; 14th, *Annie Muriel*, Shanghai; 14th *Lady Belmore*, Shanghai; 15th *Laokawanna* U. S. Corvette, Shanghai; *Juno*, Shanghai; *New York*, Furber, Yokohama.

MERCHANT VESSELS IN HARBOUR.—*Argus*, Brit. str. from Hiogo; *City of Niagara*, Brit. schr. from Chefoo; *J. H. Jessen*, Ger. bark. from Newcastle; *Pride of the Thames*, Brit. bark. from Shanghai.

WEN-OF-WAR IN HARBOUR.—*Aleout*, Voronatt, H. I. R. M. D. boat; *Boatgr.* Shuffroff, H. I. R. M. Corv.; *Dwarf*, Baz, H. B. M.'s G.-bunt; *Japanese*, Ostolopoff, H. I. R. M. Corv.; *Ringdove*, Pitman H. B. M.'s G.-bunt.

KOBÉ SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

To 21st January.

ARRIVALS.—Jan. 17th, *New York*, P.M.S.S. from Shanghai & Nagasaki.

DEPARTURES.—Jan. 17th, *Willie*, Br. sch. for Chefoo; Jan. 18th, *New York*, P.M.S.S. for Yokohama; Jan. 18th, *Zohrab* Br. bar. for London; Jan. 18th, *Bellequise* Fr. I.C. for Nagasaki; Jan. 19th, *Amade*, Ger. bar. for Hakodate.

MERCHANT VESSELS IN HARBOUR.—*Cheops*, Brit. str. Jan. 12th; *Gaucha*, Brit. bark. Jan. 4th; *Glenroy*, Brit. str. Jan. 16th; *Hawaii* Brit. brig. Nov. 24th; *Minna*, Ger. bar. Jan. 13th; *Stornaway*, Brit. ship, Jan. 4th; *Windhover*, Brit. ship, Dec. 21st.

THE "JAPAN MAIL."

Is PUBLISHED ON SATURDAY EVENING.

The following are the Terms of Subscription to this Journal.

The "WEEKLY" Edition. Per annum, \$24; Six months, \$13; Three months, \$7.

The "JAPAN MAIL," a Summary of the foregoing, is published for transmission by the American Mail Steamers to San Francisco.

TERMS.—Per annum, \$12; Six months, \$7; Three months, \$4.

AGENTS OF THE PAPER.

LONDON	G. Street, 30, Cornhill.
"	Bates, Hendy & Co., 4, Old Jewry.
NEW YORK	A. Wind, 130, Nassau Street.
HONGKONG	Lane, Crawford & Co.
SHANGHAI	Kelly & Co.
HIOGO & OZAKA	F. Walsh & Co.
NAGASAKI	China & Japan Trading Co.

Who are authorized to receive Subscriptions and Advertisements for these Papers.

The first of the following Tables was omitted from our last issue owing to the absence from Yokohama of the compiler.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

LATITUDE. 35° 25' 41" North.

LONGITUDE. 139° 39' 0" East.

Day of Week.	Day of Month.		OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT 9 A.M. LOCAL TIME.														
			Barometer.	Attached Thermometer.	Hygrometer.					Wind.		Cloud. 0—10.	During past 24 hrs.				
					Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	Dew Point.	Elastic force of Vapour.	Humidity 0—1.	Direction.	Force in lbs. per sq. ft.		Max. in air.	Min. in air.	Mean in air.	Rain in Inches.	Ozone.
Sat.	Jan.	17	29.86	53.0	39.0	37.0	34.2	.197	.831	W.	.25	9	44.0	33.0	38.5	.14	2.5
Sun	"	18	29.73	53.5	37.0	33.5	28.4	.152	.693	Calm.	.00	4	45.0	28.0	36.5	.00	1.0
Mon	"	19	29.83	50.0	34.0	29.2	20.4	.104	.533	N. W.	.15	6	41.5	25.5	33.5	.00	4.0
Tues	"	20	30.19	45.0	32.0	30.0	27.2	.144	.797	N. W.	.54	0	39.5	21.0	30.2	.00	1.0
Wed	"	21	30.28	41.0	34.0	30.5	25.5	.133	.679	N. N. E.	.05	5	39.0	27.5	33.2	.00	1.0
Thurs	"	22	30.17	47.0	37.0	33.0	27.0	.143	.648	N. N. W.	.18	2	41.0	28.0	34.5	.00	2.0
Fri	"	23	30.09	42.5	36.0	34.0	31.1	.173	.812	Calm.	.00	5	42.0	24.0	33.0	.00	2.0
Mean			30.02	47.4	35.6	32.5	27.7	.149	.713		.17	4	41.7	26.7	34.2	.02	1.9

C. S. F. FAGAN,—Lieut.,

CAMP, Yokohama, January 26th, 1874.

R. M. L. I.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

LATITUDE. 35° 25' 41" North.

LONGITUDE. 139° 39' 0" East.

Day of Week.	Day of Month.	OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT 9 A.M. LOCAL TIME.														
		Barometer.	Attached Thermometer.	Hygrometer.					Wind.		Cloud. 0—10.	During past 24 hrs.				
				Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	Dew Point.	Elastic force of Vapour.	Humidity 0—1.	Direction.	Force in lbs. per sq. ft.		Max. in air.	Min. in air.	Mean in air.	Rain in Inches.	Ozone.
Saturday ...	Jan. 24	30.07	40.5	34.0	32.0	29.2	.158	.808	N. W.	.01	8	43.5	26.5	35.0	.00	1
Sunday ...	" 25	29.91	51.0	36.0	33.5	29.9	.163	.773	N. W.	.01	1	43.0	25.0	34.0	.00	1
Monday ...	" 26	29.89	50.0	38.5	32.8	23.8	.122	.524	N. W.	.94	2	43.5	30.0	36.7	.00	3
Tuesday ...	" 27	29.97	48.0	39.5	33.0	22.3	.114	.473	N.	.45	8	42.5	29.5	36.0	.00	3
Wednesday ...	" 28	30.20	49.5	33.5	29.0	20.6	.106	.551	N. E.	.02	2	41.0	20.5	30.7	.00	3
Thursday...	" 29	30.16	49.0	35.5	32.0	26.8	.141	.679	N.	.05	0	43.5	24.0	33.7	.00	2
Friday ...	" 30	29.85	52.0	48.0	36.0	33.1	.189	.566	N. N. W.	.22	10	48.0	31.0	39.0	.21	3.5
Mean ...		30.01	48.6	37.9	32.6	26.5	.142	.625		.24	4	43.6	26.6	35.0	.03	2.4

C. S. F. FAGAN,—Lieut.,

CAMP, Yokohama, January 30th, 1874.

R. M. L. I.

INSURANCE.

Chinese Insurance Company,
(LIMITED.)

NOTICE.

AFTER this date the Brokerage allowed by this Company on the Premia on Risks to Ports West of Singapore will be Ten (10) per cent only; on all other Insurances a Brokerage of Thirty-three and one third (33 $\frac{1}{3}$) per cent on the Premia will be allowed, as heretofore.

SMITH ARCHER & Co.

Agents.

Yokohama, January 19, 1874.

1m.

INSURANCE.

China & Japan Marine Insurance
COMPANY.

THE Undersigned Agents for the above Company, are prepared to grant Policies at current rates allowing a discount of THIRTY-THREE and ONE-THIRD per cent. (33 $\frac{1}{3}$ per cent.) on Risks to Ports in China, Japan, the Philippines and the Straits and 10 per cent. on Risks to all other Ports.

Policies on SILK, with average, per Mail Steamers to London, granted at 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. less 10 per cent. discount.

STRACHAN & THOMAS,

Agents.

Yokohama, January 27, 1874.

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

YOKOHAMA, JANUARY 31st, 1874.

THE following arrivals of mails have occurred in the course of the closing week : M. M. str. *Menzaleh*, from Hongkong, on the 25th inst. ; P. & O. Co. str. *Orissa*, from Hongkong, on the 26th instant.

The mails for Europe were conveyed by the *Orissa*, which sailed on the 28th instant.

The *Flying Spur* arrived from London, on the 29th instant, with a general cargo.

The *Golden Age* has brought \$50,900 treasure from Shanghai.

The *Orissa* for Hongkong took hence 315 bales silk.

The transactions reported for the past week are of the slenderest character and barely deserving of notice. A remarkable feature of the business has been the large quantity of sea-damaged goods—chiefly ex *Vanguard*—which have been sold at auction and which have necessarily limited ordinary operations to the satisfaction of current wants. It is hardly probable that any change will occur until the old style new year has passed.

Cotton Fabrics.—Shirtings have undergone a further decline in price and only a small quantity has passed into dealers' hands within the range of our quotations. It is stated that some extensive contracts for forward delivery have been entered into with Japanese at lower rates, and that this has had the effect of limiting the present business. The sales of other fabrics are unimportant and evidence weakness in the demand.

Yarns.—The sales reported amount to 468 bales, but prices exhibit no improvement.

Woollens.—There is less doing in this branch of imports and merchants complain of the absence of all demand. A slight enquiry has obtained for *Mousselines de laine*, but the low rates offered by purchasers are prohibitory of business.

The heavy damaged stocks ex *Vanguard* have this week been offered by auction, and the forced sale of large quantities of *Presidents* and *Pilot Cloths* has exerted a most unfavourable influence upon the trade. Prices may be reported nominal.

Iron and Metals.—During the closing week there has been an absence of business in *nail rod*, the native buyers being well provided for present purposes. In *bar*, we hear of a settlement of about 70 tons of *flat* and *small round* dimensions at \$5 to \$5.10. The demand for this is very weak and prices are declining rapidly. No transactions have taken place in *hoop*.

Stocks of iron are unchanged. The *Flying Spur* brings the following accession :—

Sheet 50 tons.	Nailrod 70 tons.
Hoop 50 "	Bar 80 "

Sugar.—No change worthy of report has occurred since the publication of our last issue, and we continue the quotations of last week.

Kerosene.—Stocks of this oil are diminishing and an advance in rates is obtainable.

QUOTATIONS FOR ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

GOODS.	PRICES.	GOODS.	PRICES.
Cotton Piece Goods.		WOOLLENS.—Continued.	
G. E. Grey Shirtings:—		ditto (plain) ditto ..	\$4.50 to 5.00
7 lbs. 38½ yds. 39 in. per pce.	\$2.17½ to \$2.20	Alpacas 42 yds. 31 in. ... "	6.50 to 8.50
8 " " " 44 " 45 in. "	2.55 nom.	Camlet Cords 30 yds. 31 in. ... "	Nominal.
8 lbs. 4 to 8 lbs. 6 ditto 39 in. "	2.55 to 2.65	Mousselines delaine, (plain) 30 to 31 in pyrd.	0.16 to 0.19½
9 lbs. " " " 44 in. "	3.10	ditto (printed) ... "	0.24 to 0.30
G. E. White Shirtings:—		Cloth, Medium & Broad 54 in to 64 in ..	Dull.
56 to 60 reed 40 yds. 35 in. nominal "	2.45 to 2.60	ditto Union 54 in to 56 in ..	0.35 to 0.90
64 to 72 " ditto ... "	2.70 to 2.85	Long Ells (Assorted) per pce.	Du
T. Cloth:—6 lbs. ... "	1.45 to 1.50	Blankets saleable per lb.	0.30 to 0.42½
7 " " " " " "	1.75 to 1.82½		
Drills, English—15 lbs. ... "	3.20 to 3.30		
Handkerchiefs Assorted per doz.	0.45 to 0.80		
Brocades & Spots (White) per pce.	nominal.		
ditto (Dyed) "			
Chintz (Assorted) 24 yds. 30 in. ... "	1.65 to 2.30		
Turkey Reds 24 yds. 30 in. per lb.	0.87½ to 0.95		
Velvets (Black) 35 yds. 22 in. per pce.	8.50 to 9.50		
Muslins and Cambric 12 yds. 42 in. "	0.90 to 0.95		
Taffaelass single weft 12 yds 43 in. "	2.40 to 2.80		
ditto (double weft) " "	2.70 to 2.95		
Cotton Yarns.		Metals and Sundries.	
No. 16 to 24 per picul.	39.00 to 40.50	Iron flat and round per pel	4.25 to 5.40
" 28 to 32 "	39.50 to 40.50	" nail rod "	4.85 to 6.00
" 38 to 42 ... small stock nom. "	45.00 to 47.00	" hoop nominal. "	5.00 to 5.25
		" sheet "	5.50 to 6.50
		" wire "	10.00 to 13.00
		" pig "	2.00 to 2.30
		Lead "	Nominal.
		Tin Plates per box.	8.70
		Formosa in Bag nom. per picul.	4.30 to 4.40
		in Basket "	4.10 to 4.15
		China No. 1 Ping fan "	8.50 to 8.60
		do. No. 2 Ching-pak "	7.70 to 8.00
		do. No. 3 Ke-pak "	7.80 to 7.50
		do. No. 4 Kook-fah "	6.80 to 7.10
		do. No. 5 Kong-fuw "	6.10 to 6.60
		do. No. 6 E-pak "	5.40 to 5.70
		Swatow "	3.70 to 3.80
		Daitoong "	3.75 to 4.10
		Sugar Candy "	10.00 to 11.25
		Raw Cotton (Shanghai new) ... "	15.00 to 15.25
		Rice "	2.80
Woollens & Woollen Mixtures.			
Camlets SS 56 to 58 yds. 31 in Asstd. per pce	nom. no stocks.		
ditto Black "	14.50 to 15.00		
ditto Scarlet "	18.00 to 18.50		
Union Camlets ditto "	Nominal.		
Lastings 30 yds. 31. "	13.00 to 14.00		
Crape Lastings ditto ... "	6.00 to 7.00		
Lustres & Orleans (figured) ditto ... "	4.00 to 6.00		

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

(Continued.)

Silk.—Since the 21st instant, concessions on the part of holders to the extent of \$20 to \$30 have induced business.

Settlements are about 400 bales of Hanks and 250 of other sorts, a portion of which is supposed to be consigned for native account.

Arrivals have been 400 bales.

Tea.—Business in this staple has been very limited for the past week, settlements having greatly fallen off and stocks on hand of not very desirable classes. Prices are rather weaker, but no marked alteration can be quoted although two or three irregular settlements have been made at a decline of \$1 to \$1.50 per picul. We therefore do not change our market quotations this week.

The *Atalanta* was despatched on the 28th instant, for New York *via* Kobe and China ports and through the Suez Canal. She took from this 8,320 packages or about 380,000 lbs. Tea, and we understand is fully engaged for the portion of freight which is allotted to Kobe. The *Corea* for New York will have speedy despatch.

EXPORTS.

GOODS.		PRICES.	LAI'D DOWN AND SOLD IN LONDON. Ex. at 4s. 4d.	LAI'D DOWN AND SOLD IN LYONS. Ex. at 5.40 @ 6s.
Silk:—		per picul		
HANKS.	{ Maibashi and Shinshiu }	Extra none. ...	\$700.00	26s. 10d.
		Best ...	\$680.00 to \$680.00	25s. 5d. to 26s. 1d.
		Good ...	\$610.00 to \$630.00	23s. 7d. to 24s. 4d.
		Medium ...	\$510.00 to \$600.00	22s. 6d. to 23s. 3d.
		Inferior ...	\$550.00	21s. 5d.
OHIO.	Extra ...	... ..	\$690.00	26s. 6d.
	Best ...	... ..	\$650.00 to \$670.00	25s. d. to 25s. 9d.
	Good ...	... ..	\$580.00 to \$630.00	22s. 6d. to 24s. 4d.
	Medium ...	... ..	\$530.00 to \$570.00	26s. 8d. to 22s. 2d.
HAMATSKI.	Inferior ...	... ..	
	Inferior to Best ...	... ..	\$460.00 to \$480.00	18s. 2d. to 18s. 11d.
Tea:—				
Common ...		... ..	\$20.00 to 28.00	
Good Common ...		... ..	24.00 to 28.00	
Medium ...		... ..	30.00 to 34.00	
Good Medium ...		... ..	35.00 to 38.00	
Fine ...		... ..	40.00 to 44.00	
Finest ...		... ..	45.00 to 48.00	
Choice ...		... ..	nominal.	
Choicest ...		... ..	nominal.	
Sundries:—				
Mushrooms ...		... ..	\$37.00 to 46.00	
Isinglass ...		... ..	\$30.00 to 35.00	
Sharks' Fins ...		... ..	\$22.00 to 52.00	
White Wax ...		... ..	\$18.00 to 15.00	
Bees Do. ...		... ..	\$12.00 to 13.00	
Cuttle fish ...		... ..	None.	
Dried Shrimps ...		... ..	"
Seaweed, ...		... ..	\$ 1.50 to 3.50	
Gallnut ...		... ..	None.	
Tobacco ...		... ..	\$ 6.50 to 12.00	

EXCHANGE AND BULLION.

Exchange.—The business of the week has been small and nothing is doing in Bank Paper.

Credits and Documentary Paper were settled at one time at 4s. 3½d., but now close firm at quotations.

Locally the business has been limited : 74 is freely given for remittances on Shanghai.

Rates close as follows:—

On London, Bank, 6 Months' Sight....	4s. 3½d.
" " Bank Bills on demand	4s. 2½d.
" " Credits..... 43½ to	4s. 4d.
" Paris, Bank Bills.....	5.44
" " Private	5.48
" Shanghai Bank Bills on demand..... 74	
" " Private Bills 10 days sight 74½	

On Hongkong Bank Bills on demand ½ per cent discount.	
" " Private Bills 10 ds. sight ½ per cent discount.	
" San Francisco Bank Bills on demand 102½	
" 30 days' sight Private.... 104	
" New York Bank Bills on demand... 102	
" 30d. s. Private..... 108½	
Gold Yen..... 3 per cent discount.	
Kinsats	411

MISCELLANEOUS.



British Episcopal Church Establishment, Yokohama.

AT the request of two Subscribers the undersigned begs to call an Extraordinary General Meeting of subscribers to be held at the British Consulate on SATURDAY, the 7th proximo at 2 P. M., for the purpose of passing resolutions in respect to the raising of the Pew rents, the adoption of the Report of the Committee on Ways and Means, the reconstitution of the Church, and other matters relating to its future management.

(Signed) RUSSELL ROBERTSON,
H. M.'s Consul.

British Consulate,
Kanagawa, January 31, 1874.

td.

Yokohama General Chamber of Commerce.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Yokohama General Chamber of Commerce will be held at the Rooms of the Chamber,

On Thursday, the 5th February,

AT 2.30 P.M.,

For the purpose of receiving the Annual Report; Electing Officers for the ensuing year; and for General Business.

By Order,

J. JULIUS DARE,
Secretary.

Yokohama, January 31, 1874.

td.

NOTICE.

MR. JULIUS BRYNER is authorized to sign our Firm name in Japan.

EDWARD FISCHER & Co.

Japan, January 8, 1874. J. 16. d. & w. 2ws.

NOTICE.

THE BUSINESS of the undersigned is in Liquidation from this date.

T. LENZ.

Hiogo, January 1, 1874.

MR. T. LENZ has this day joined our Firm as a Partner.

FABER & VOIGT.

Hiogo, January 1, 1874. J. 8. d. & w. 4ws.

NOTICE.

MR. CHARLES JOHN MELHUSH and Mr. ALEXANDER WILLIAM GLENNIE, are this day admitted Partners in our Firm in Japan, which will be conducted as heretofore under the style of

GILMAN & Co.

Yokohama, January 1, 1874.

J. 9. 1m.

INSURANCE.

The Lancashire Insurance Company.

C A P I T A L

TWO MILLIONS STERLING.

One of the Four Offices of the "Highest Class":—vide, the complimentary remarks of the Chancellor of the Exchequer made in the House of Commons on 7th March, 1864 (Times 8th March, 1864).

CHIEF OFFICES.—Exchange Street, St. Anne's Square, Manchester,
And 10, Cornhill, London.
7, Water Street, Liverpool.
4, Hanover Street, Glasgow.
23, Cowgate, Dundee.

THE UNDERSIGNED having, by ample Power of Attorney, been appointed Agents for the above mentioned Company at this Port, are prepared to issue Policies of Insurance AGAINST FIRE at Current Rates.

HUDSON, MALCOLM & Co.

Yokohama, June 30, 1868.

Yangtze Insurance Association of Shanghai.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, TLS. 600,000

POLICES granted on MARINE RISKS, to all parts of the world at Current Rates.

This Association will, until further notice, provide out of the earnings, first for an interest dividend of 15 per cent. to Shareholders on Capital, and thereafter, distribute among Policy holders annually, in Cash, ALL THE PROFITS of the underwriting Business pro rata to amount of premium contributed.

NO POLICY FEES CHARGED.

WALSH, HALL & Co.,
Agents.

Yokohama, August 30, 1872.

Transatlantische Feuer Versicherungs Actien Gesellschaft in Hamburg.

ESTABLISHED 1871.

Capital: One Million Prussian Thalers.

THE COMPANY, having made arrangements for the participation in each risk, with eight Re-Insurance Companies representing an aggregate Capital of SIX MILLION PRUSSIAN THALERS, is thereby enabled to offer ample security.

POLICIES AGAINST FIRE,

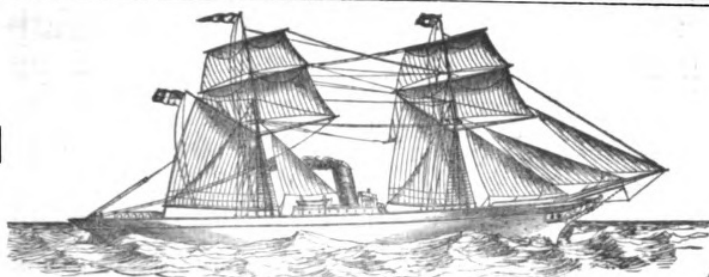
to the extent of \$45,000 in ONE RISK, issued at current rates.

L. KNIFFLER & Co.
Agents.

Yokohama, July 16, 1872.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**IRON
STEAM
AND**



**SAIL-
ING
SHIPS.**

COLE BROTHERS,

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, ENGLAND,

Builders of all Classes of Iron Vessels up to the largest Dimensions.

TUGS, BARGES, &c.,

July 18, 1873.

IRON AND WOOD SHIPS REPAIRED.

52 ins.

KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES.

THIS UNIVERSAL REMEDY now stands the first in public favour and confidence: this result has been acquired by the test of 50 YEARS' EXPERIENCE. These Lozenges may be found on sale in every British Colony, and throughout India and China they have been highly esteemed wherever introduced. For COUGHS, ASTHMA, and all affections of the Throat and Chest, they are the most agreeable and efficacious remedy. They do not contain opium or any other deleterious drug, and may therefore be taken with perfect safety by the most delicate constitution.

Sold in Bottles of various sizes.

KEATING'S BON BONS OR WORM TABLETS

A PURELY VEGETABLE SWEETMEAT, both in appearance and taste, furnishing a most agreeable method of administering the only certain remedy for **INTESTINAL OR THREAD WORMS**. It is a perfectly safe and mild preparation, and is especially adapted for children. Sold in Tins and Bottles of various sizes by all Chemists.

CAUTION.—The public are requested to observe that all the above preparations bear the Trade Mark as herein shown.

THOMAS KEATING, London
EXPORT CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

Indents for pure Drugs and Chemicals carefully executed.

Yokohama, August 9, 1873.



26 ins.

**THE GREATEST WONDER OF MODERN
TIMES!**

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

THESE famous and unrivalled Pills act most powerfully, yet soothingly on the liver and stomach, giving tone, energy, and vigour to these great main springs of life. Females of all ages will find them in all cases to be depended upon. Persons suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." Blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

Sir Samuel Baker, in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," speaks of the Pills in the highest terms.

Mr. J. T. Cooper, in his famous "Travels in China," says that when money could not procure for him his necessary requirements, he could always get his wants supplied in exchange for "Holloway's Pills."

**THE GREAT CURE ALL!
HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.**

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of a kind. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases and in arresting and subduing all inflammations. Rubbed on the neck and chest, it exerts the most beneficial influence over asthma, shortness of breath, sore throats, bronchitis, diphtheria, coughs, and colds. In the cure of gout, rheumatism, glandular swellings, and stiff joints, it has no equal. In disorders of the kidneys the Ointment should be most effectually rubbed over the seat of those organs.

THE "MOFUSSIL GUARDIAN,"

Of August 31st, 1872, states that a severe case of that dreadful plague "dengue" was cured in a few hours, by well rubbing the body with Holloway's Ointment.

These remedies are only prepared by the Proprietor, **THOMAS HOLLOWAY, 533, Oxford Street, London.** Beware of counterfeits that may emanate from the United States.

Yokohama, September 27, 1873.

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52 ins.

SHIRTS—ENGLISH MAKE.

ALEXANDER GRANT & Co.,

5, OAT LANE, WOOD STREET, LONDON,

SHIRT MANUFACTURERS,

Their well known makes supplied to the **WHOLESALE and SHIPPING** Trades only. Price Lists on Application.

MANUFACTORY—LONDONDERRY.

Yokohama, September 27, 1873.

26 ins.

FRAUD.

On the 27th June, 1866, **MOTEEWALLAH**, a Printer, was convicted at the Supreme Court, Calcutta, of counterfeiting the

LABELS

Of Messrs. CROSSE & BLACKWELL,

London, and was sentenced by Mr. Justice Phear to

TWO YEARS RIGOROUS IMPRISONMENT;

And on the 30th of the same month, for

SELLING SPURIOUS ARTICLES

bearing Labels in imitation of Messrs. **CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S** **SHAIK BACHOO** was sentenced, by the Suburban Magistrate at Sealdah, to

TWO YEARS RIGOROUS IMPRISONMENT.

CAUTION.—Any one selling spurious oilmen's stores, under Crosse & Blackwell's name, will be liable to the same punishment, and will be vigorously prosecuted. Purchasers are recommended to examine all goods carefully upon taking delivery of them, and to destroy all bottles and jars when emptied. The **GENUINE** Manufactures, the corks of which are all branded with Crosse & Blackwell's name, may be had from **EVERY RESPECTABLE DEALER** in India.

Yokohama, May 27, 1872.

12 ins.

CAUTION.

BETTS'S PATENT CAPSULES.

—:O:—

The public are respectfully cautioned that **BETTS'S Patent Capsules** are being Infringed.

BETTS'S name is upon every Capsule he makes for the leading Merchants at home and abroad,

and he is the **ONLY INVENTOR and SOLE MAKER** in the United Kingdom.

Manufactories:—1, Wharf-road, City-road, London, and Bordeaux, France.

Yokohama, 6th July, 1872. Original from

12 ins.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE MEDICAL HALL.

J. THOMPSON & CO.,

Wholesale and Retail Druggists,

FROM J. LLEWELLYN & Co., SHANGHAI

Continue to supply the purest Chemicals.

AND THE

Freshest Pharmacopœia Preparations.

All the English, American and French patent
Medicines of repute,

SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS,

Photographic Chemicals and Apparatus

Toilet Requisites, &c., at the lowest possible rates.

SHIP'S MEDICINE CHESTS

supplied and refitted.

Sole Agents for the following well-known preparation.

Davenport's Chlorodyne.

Cavert's Carbolic Acid, &c., &c.

Glmault's Proprietary Articles.

Bristol's Sarsaparilla, Pills and Florida Water.

S. Maw, Son & Thompsons,

Surgical Instruments and Medical requirements,

&c., &c., &c.

No. (60) 1, Bank Buildings,

YOKOHAMA.

Yokohama, Dec 10th, 1870.

tf.



JOYCE'S SPORTING AMMUNITION.

ESTABLISHED 1820.

FREDERICK JOYCE & CO.

INVITE the attention of Sportsmen to the following
Ammunition of the best quality, now in general use
throughout England India and the Colonies.

Joyce's Treble Waterproof Central Fire
Percussion Caps,

Chemically-prepared Cloth and Felt Gun Wadding, Car-
tridge Cases of superior quality for Breech-loading Guns,
Wire Cartridges for killing Game at long distances,

And every Description of Sporting Ammunition.

Sold by all Gunmakers and Dealers in Gunpowder.

Frederick Joyce & Co.,

PATENTERS AND MANUFACTURERS,

57, Upper Thames Street, London.

Yokohama, February 4, 1873.

tf.

MISCELLANEOUS.

LAMPS LAMPS



FOR

Kerosine—Petroleum—Paraffin.

WRIGHT & BUTLER,

MANUFACTURERS AND EXPORTERS,

BIRMINGHAM.

PHOTOGRAPHS and Books on application. Great-
ly improved designs American Burners if desired.
Chandeliers in great Variety. Patentees of the
Celebrated

"Eclipse."—No Chimney Burner!

All Orders must be sent through an English house, or
accompanied by 60 days' draft.

Yokohama, March 4, 1873.

12ms

BURGOYNE, BURBIDGES & Co.,

COLEMAN STREET, LONDON,

EXPORT DRUGGISTS,

MANUFACTURERS of every description of CHE-
MICAL, PHARMACEUTICAL, PHOTOGRA-
PHIC, and other PREPARATIONS, OIL PRESSERS,
DISTILLERS OF ESSENTIAL OILS, DEALERS in
Patent Medicines, SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS and
Appliances, Glass Ware, Confectionery, Medical Books,
and Shop Fittings, and every description of Druggists'
Sundries, Paints, Colours, Dyes, &c., &c.

Upon application, Messrs. BURGOYNE,
BURBIDGES & Co. will forward their Price Current,
containing more than Twenty Thousand prices.

Messrs. BURGOYNE, BURBIDGES & Co. are
thoroughly conversant with the Japan Markets, and are
prepared to receive commission orders for any articles of
British Manufacture, and having made this an important
branch of their business, they are enabled to select the
cheapest and best goods, securing the extremest discounts;
they likewise receive consignments of produce.

Yokohama, June 21, 1873.

52ins.

GWYNNE & COY. ENGINEERS,

ESSEX ST. WORKS, STRAND, LONDON.

Manufacture of the very best quality,

ARTESIAN WELL-BORING TOOLS, ETC.
BEALE'S PATENT GAS EXHAUSTERS AND BLOWERS.
BOILERS OF ALL POWERS AND FORMS.
GWYNNE'S PATENT CENTRIFUGAL PUMPS, ALL SIZES.
PUMPING MACHINERY FOR DOCKS, CANALS, ETC.
HYDRAULIC PRESSES, LIFTS, PUMPS AND RAMS.
IRON BRIDGES, CAISSONS, HOUSES AND STORES.
PUMPING ENGINES, FOR SUPPLY OF TOWNS, FACTO-
RIES, CANALS, ESTATES, ETC.
ENGINES, PORTABLE AND FIXED, OF ALL POWERS.
IRRIGATION PUMPS OF ALL SIZES AND FORMS.
SHEEP WASHING MACHINERY.
HORSE-CLIPPING MACHINES.
TURBINE WATER WHEELS AND PUMPING MACHINES
(GIRARD'S CELEBRATED PATENTS).

This Machinery has had 20 Prize Medals at the Exhibitions of the
first Cities and Countries in the World.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUES WITH 210 ENGRAVINGS
FORWARDED ON RECEIPT OF 1/- IN STAMPS.

Yokohama, September 13, 1873.

25ins.